

Soviet official sentenced to death

MOSCOW (R) — Another Uzbek official has been sentenced to death for largescale bribetaking as part of a Soviet campaign to clean up the corruption-plagued central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan, Trud reported Saturday. The trade union newspaper named the official only as Rakhimov, a former collective farm chairman who prospered under Uzbek leader Sharaf Rashidov, who died in office in 1983 after ruling the republic for 24 years. A close associate of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, Rashidov was posthumously disgraced and stripped of his honours in a huge anti-corruption campaign started in 1984. Several Uzbek officials have since been executed after being found guilty of taking bribes worth millions of roubles. Trud said Rakhimov had been involved in corruption for years. "In the course of the investigation it emerged that through these means, hundreds of thousands of roubles had amassed in his pockets," it said. In March, three former senior Uzbek officials committed suicide after being arrested for bribe-taking. They included a former Uzbek interior minister, Kudrat Ergashev, his deputy and a regional party chief.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة باللغة العربية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

Egypt trusts Taba arbitration

CAIRO (AP) — Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid said Saturday that he trusts the judgement of an international arbitration panel which is to decide later this summer whether the disputed area of Taba belongs to Egypt or Israel. Abdul Meguid's comments were apparently in response to recent Israeli media reports that said Egypt had agreed to discuss a compromise with Israel about Taba, despite the belief that the arbitrators will vote in the Cairo government's favour, so as not to damage ties with Israel. The Egyptian foreign minister spoke to reporters at Cairo International airport, following his arrival from the United States where he attended a United Nations session on disarmament. "Egypt's position regarding Taba is known. We agreed to resolve the issue through arbitration and the arbitrators have already finished hearing the cases presented by both sides and they are now deliberating," he said. We all trust the judgement of the arbitrators," he added. Commenting on Israeli actions against the Palestinian uprising, Abdul Meguid said: "We strongly condemn these actions which we consider a violation of all international rules and humanitarian laws. It would be better if Israel accepts to move towards peace so that the Palestinian people get their legal rights."

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Vassiliou agrees to meet Denktash

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus President George Vassiliou agreed Saturday to meet Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash for talks on reuniting the divided island. Denktash, president of the breakaway Turkish republic of north Cyprus, said earlier this month he was ready to talk to Vassiliou. U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar had invited them to a meeting without preconditions. Vassiliou told reporters after a meeting of the National Council which groups all party leaders that, if Denktash agreed, they could meet in Geneva in early July.

Khomeini 'receives visitors'

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, received visitors Saturday who prayed for him to live until judgement day, Tehran Radio reported. The report was the first official announcement of Khomeini's activities since U.S. and British television networks quoted reports as saying the 85-year-old leader had died or was dying. The radio said Revolutionary Guards, volunteer soldiers and fund-raisers visited Khomeini at Jamaran mosque in northern Tehran.

Shultz to visit Central America

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will visit Central America from June 29 to July 1 due to President Reagan's growing concern over the lack of progress towards democracy in Nicaragua, a State Department statement said. It said Reagan had asked Shultz to meet the leaders of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica to discuss the situation in Nicaragua, where peace talks with contra rebels broke down recently.

Manigat fires armed forces chief

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — Haiti's president, Leslie Manigat, Friday dismissed armed forces chief General Henri Namphy and two other generals. The dismissals came after a confrontation over Namphy's attempt to transfer a colonel loyal to the president. Namphy, who headed an interim military government for two years after dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier fled in January 1986, has retired, according to a presidential communique issued late Friday. Namphy's dismissal appeared to reflect a victory in Manigat's growing conflict with the armed forces since taking office Feb. 7.

Manila assails Shultz's remarks

MANILA (AP) — Senators Saturday assailed U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz for recently saying the United States would "part company" with allies who prohibit nuclear-armed vessels in their waters. Shultz made the statement Thursday during testimony to the U.S. Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee. He also said the United States would pull out its facilities if Manila demands higher compensation. Sen. Jovito Salonga, president of the Philippine Senate, told a news conference the government rejects the notion of friendship "based on a condition of having nuclear weapons" in the Philippines. "What kind of relationship is this if they have to put dynamite and bombs in our (territory) for us to be friends?" he asked.

15 Syrian officials sacked

DAMASCUS (R) — Fifteen Syrian officials have been sacked from government departments or state institutions for mismanagement or dishonesty, the Syrian news agency (SANA) said Saturday. Diplomats said the dismissals were part of a government campaign against corruption and mismanagement in the public service.

Cyprus imposes new visa rules

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus has tightened controls on visitors from the Middle East and elsewhere after a car bombing which killed three people last month. People from the Middle East, Asia and Africa will in future need visas before travelling to the holiday island, officials said Saturday. They said this was one of a series of measures to strengthen security after a botched attempt to bomb the Israeli embassy May 11. Three people died and 19 were injured when the car exploded in a central Nicosia street.

Three killed in Pakistan riots

KARACHI (R) — Three people were killed and 40 wounded in riots Saturday in the southern Pakistani city of Hyderabad, where police with shoot-on-sight orders later imposed a curfew, residents said. The curfew was clamped at six p.m. (1300 GMT) after hundreds of people broke into the city mayor's office with arms, hatchets and wooden stakes, the residents said. Police said a bomb was also lobbed at the home of the mayor, Aftab Ahmad Sheikh. Witnesses said the violence broke out between two ethnic groups who have clashed several times in the past in Pakistan's second biggest city.

U.S. drops minor Panama sanction

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. government is dropping a sanction against Panama that required U.S. firms to withhold social security payments for their Panamanian staff from Panama's government, the state department said Friday. Spokesman Charles Redman described the measure as purely humanitarian and said the United States had not softened its stance against Panamanian strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega and his handpicked president, Manuel Solis Palma.

Sierra Leone leader holds talks in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — Sierra Leone's President Joseph Momoh held talks Saturday with the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported. Diplomatic sources said Momoh, who arrived Friday at the start of Gulf tour, was seeking finance for road and hospital projects in his country.

Kabul says Stinger seized

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Afghan government troops seized a U.S.-made Stinger anti-aircraft missile along with an assortment of other weapons from Mujahideen fighters in the western province of Herat, Radio Kabul reported Saturday. The radio credited Afghan border guards with the seizure, indicating it occurred near Afghanistan's border with Iran. Two guerrillas were arrested and one killed. Also Saturday, Afghan President Najibullah officially ushered in Prime Minister Mohammad Hasan Sharq and his cabinet.

Moscow police detain 2 demonstrators

MOSCOW (R) — Police detained at last two people at a demonstration for democracy in Moscow Saturday, provoking a large crowd of onlookers to react with shouts of "fascists," eyewitnesses said. The two people, whose identity was not immediately known, were held as police tried to disperse about 50 members of various unofficial debating clubs, who carried banners calling for a democratic electoral system and "socialist pluralism," the eyewitnesses said.

Ozal escapes attempt on life

ANKARA (Agencies) — Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, whose reformist policies have changed the face of Turkey, was slightly wounded in an assassination attempt Saturday while addressing 5,000 supporters and foreign diplomats.

Screams of panic pierced the packed Ankara Hall and people dove for cover as a gunman fired at least two shots at Ozal. One bullet hit his right hand and another narrowly missed his head.

The youthful-looking man dressed in "T" shirt and jeans opened fire with a handgun at Ozal from a distance of 10 metres and then blazed away blindly before he was shot in the arm by a policeman and seized, officials said.

Ankara Governor Saffet Arik-Beduk told reporters that 20 people were hurt, 15 of them with gunshot wounds. Labour Minister Imren Aykut, the only woman in Ozal's cabinet, was among those slightly injured in the panic.

Ozal, 60, a conservative generally viewed as the only political leader who can rally the nation, ducked behind his podium in the Ataturk Stadium when the first shots were fired and was immediately surrounded by bodyguards with guns drawn.

Returning to the podium 15 minutes later, his right hand wrapped in a blood-stained bandage, Ozal said: "My dear colleagues, I want to emphasise this — nobody can take away the life God has given. We have surren-

dered ourselves into God's hands."

Ozal then calmly finished his planned speech on Turkish foreign policy to a congress of the ruling Motherland Party and went to his official residence where his hand was stitched.

Officials said the detained man gave his name to police at his hospital bed as Hayati Ipek but later changed it to Kartal Demirag.

The semi-official Anatolian news agency, reporting from the man's home town of Dazkiri in the western province of Afyon, said he had escaped from jail where he was serving a 10-year sentence for murder. He was described as a nightster.

"The attacker fired two shots towards the prime minister... (he) was injured in the right thumb and one bullet flew over his head," said Erkal Zenger, Ozal's publicity adviser.

Ozal was later reported in excellent condition and aides said he had watched a television film of the attack.

President Kenan Evren, who as a general led a 1980 army coup to end political mayhem in which more than 5,000 people were killed, was quick to condemn the attack, as were military leaders and Ozal's parliamentary opponents.

It was not immediately clear if the gunfire that hit some of the wounded came from police or the gunman.

A police official at the scene, who requested anonymity, said



Target Ozal

Regent sends cable to Ozal

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday sent a cable to Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal congratulating him on escape from an assassination attempt on his life. The Regent wished Ozal continued health and happiness and the Turkish people further progress and prosperity. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai also sent Ozal a similar cable.

The first bullet fired by the gunman hit the microphone in front of Ozal and the second one hit his right thumb.

Ozal took cover immediately behind the lectern when he heard the shots, Anatolia said. Delegates and others inside the convention hall also took cover, it said.

"I saw the gunman take careful aim at the premier and fire at him twice," Eyup Asik, a deputy chairman of the party, told the agency.

Ozal came to power in a general election in 1983 after three years of military rule. He won a second five-year term with an overwhelming mandate in elections last November.

His free-market economic policies and outward-looking foreign policy, including an application made 14 months ago for full membership of the European Economic Community (EEC), have radically changed the image of a once-introverted Turkey.

(Continued on page 5)

Students stage protests after school

Another Palestinian martyred in uprising

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian and wounded eight others in the Gaza Strip Saturday during widespread protests and a general strike in the occupied territories.

Palestinian students, who returned to school in the occupied West Bank after a two-day closure, lit tyres and erected roadblocks immediately after school ended.

A Palestinian man in the Khan Yunis refugee camp died after troops opened fire on stone-throwing protesters, residents said. Eight others were wounded from live ammunition, rubber bullets and beatings, they added.

The death brought a toll in the six-month uprising against Israeli occupation to at least 219 Palestinians.

The underground leadership of the uprising called in its last leaflets for "a day of public confrontation" to show support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Palestinian self-determination.

Students in the West Bank city of Ramallah and nearby Al Bireh camp marched from their schools to a mosque in central Ramallah to erect roadblocks and burn tyres after school.

The Israeli occupation authorities opened schools Saturday after closing them for two days because of protests.

The schools were originally closed in February because of the uprising but gradually reopened several weeks ago.

Palestinians said there were also demonstrations in Amari, Jalazon and Qadouri camps.

Palestinians in the Gaza Strip held a general strike Saturday, paralysing commerce and transportation. Protesters also burned tyres in the streets.

In the Khan Yunis refugee camp, soldiers opened fire on protesters who threw firebombs at them. An Arab reporter said Khaled Al Haj Yousef, 17, was shot in the chest and died of his wounds. Another boy, aged 14, was shot in the knee.

Moscow in dilemma over ethnic dispute

MOSCOW (Agencies) — A major clash between two Soviet republics appears to be coming to a head.

With the parliaments of Armenia and Azerbaijan taking opposing stands over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh, people of the two transcaucasian republics await a final decision from Moscow on the issue.

On Friday the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet endorsed a recommendation by its executive body to reject a request from Nagorno-Karabakh for the region to be transferred to Armenia.

An Azerbaijan foreign ministry spokesman told Reuters:

"The Supreme Soviet considered that the departure of Nagorno-Karabakh... contradicted the constitution of the Soviet Union as well as the traditional ties of friendship between the Armenian and Azerbaijani peoples."

The move followed a vote by the corresponding body in Armenia Wednesday to annex Nagorno-Karabakh. It has been ruled by Azerbaijan since 1923, although 75 per cent of its population are Armenian.

Both republics cite the Soviet constitution to back their positions. Azerbaijan quotes Article 78, which says borders may be redrawn only with the consent of all republics concerned.

But another clause, Article 70, expresses the right of all peoples to self-determination. This was used by the Armenian parliament to justify the right of Nagorno-Karabakh to decide for itself to which republic it should belong.

The votes now leave the Kremlin with no option but to determine which interpretation should be applied. In March, Soviet officials cited Article 78, when Moscow ruled against any immediate change in the status of the region.

The TASS news agency reported the Azerbaijani decision and said the parliament session was broadcast live on the republic's television and radio stations. Western reporters have been barred from Armenia and Azerbaijan since the dispute erupted into ethnic unrest earlier this year.

The unrest led to bloodshed in February, when 32 people, mostly Armenians, were killed in riots in the Azerbaijani city of Sum-gait.

In Jerusalem, several months of calm were shattered when Palestinian students used stones and large garbage wagons to block Saladdin Street, the main shopping thoroughfare in the city.

Major-General Amram Mitzna, commander of Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank, said Saturday the Palestinians have gained confidence during their

six-month uprising.

"The Palestinians' feelings of achievement and of their own capabilities, the way they came to know our sensitivities and weaknesses, means things will never be what they were before the uprising said Mitzna.

He said the Israeli army would have to go on maintaining a massive presence in the occupied territories. "When we solve one problem, another crops up somewhere else," he said. "We are already prepared for the fact the uprising will last a long time."

Mitzna said Palestinians have moved from the phase of mass demonstrations to the more lethal

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan, World Bank review cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Thouqan Al Hindawi Saturday held talks with World Bank Director for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa William Cooper.

Hindawi and Cooper reviewed cooperation between Jordan and the World Bank particularly with regard to the bank's support for Ministry of Education projects designed to modernise teaching methods and promote the standard of teachers and curricula. Expressing the bank's confi-

dence in projects and goals set by the Jordanian government and the Ministry of Education, Cooper approved an immediate loan to Jordan to enable the Kingdom to continue some urgent projects which the ministry began before reaching financing agreements with the bank.

Hindawi thanked Cooper for understanding Jordan's needs and aspirations in the field of education.

The secretary general of the Ministry of Education attended the meeting.

Iraq reports heavy air combat missions

NICOSIA (Agencies) — A dog-fight over the Gulf Saturday between an Iranian jet fighter and an Iraqi Mirage trying to attack tankers ended with the Iraqi jet being shot down, the Iranian news agency (IRNA) claimed.

Iraq vehemently denied the account, with the Iraqi news agency saying its combat aircraft flew 109 sorties Saturday and all returned safely to base.

Iran said one of its fighter jets fired an air-to-air missile at 9:42 a.m. (06:12 GMT) and the Iraqi jet was hit and sank in the Gulf, according to Iranian news reports monitored in Nicosia.

Iraq said its warplanes flew 74 combat missions while its helicopter gunships went on 35 combat sorties. It was the lowest number of missions since fighting renewed this week with an Iranian assault on Iraqi positions in the Salameh region east of Basra.

The war communique issued by INA reported fighting at various points along the 1,180-kilometre border.

Iraq said Friday that its forces shot down an Iranian helicopter while an Iranian religious leader lashed out at the U.S. for a proposed weapons sale to Kuwait.

Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker

of Iran's parliament and recently appointed commander in chief of the armed forces, said that U.S. warships were in the Gulf to buoy the Iraqi government.

The proposed sale of warplanes and missiles to Kuwait was "arrogant," he said in remarks at Friday prayer ceremonies at Tehran University.

Iraq also said Friday it recaptured several strategic peaks in the northeastern mountains of Iraqi Kurdistan after 60 hours of fierce fighting with Iranian defenders.

A high command communique read over Baghdad Television said the First Army Corps launched the attack at 5 a.m. Wednesday and the battles did not end until 5 p.m. Friday.

It said Mount Ahmed Romy, highest point overlooking the Mawat border region in northeast Iraq, and six nearby heights were retaken.

The mountain, more than 2,000 metres high, overlooks an entire Iraqi valley. It is about 40 kilometres northeast of Sulimaniyah, Iraq's largest northern city and the provincial capital of the Kurdish region. The mountain is about seven kilometres from the Iraq-Iran border.

Pope encourages Aquino to maintain democracy

VATICAN CITY (Agencies) — Pope John Paul Saturday encouraged Philippines President Corason Aquino to pursue her efforts to sustain democracy at home, saying history had given her a heavy burden.

"The tasks that history has set your excellency in the service of your country are by no means light," the Pope told the devoutly Roman Catholic Aquino during a state visit to the Vatican capping her European tour.

The Pope and Aquino, who attended the Pope's private mass Friday morning, spoke alone for 35 minutes before the public part of the visit.

A Vatican statement said Aquino, who was greeted with full honours, told the Pope of the Philippine government's efforts to find stable solutions to the country's many problems.

The atmosphere of the public part of the audience, during which a cheerful Pope and Aquino read speeches and exchanged gifts in the pontiff's

study, was one of the most cordial and happy seen at an official visit.

"The recent history of your country is filled with important events which continue to have a profound effect on the collective life of the nation," the Pope said in apparent reference to the period since the 1986 ousting of Ferdinand Marcos.

The Pope, who visited the Philippines in 1981 when Marcos was president, said he would pray that the country could respond "to the demands of the present challenging hour of your history."

Aquino thanked the Pope for his prayers during the 1986 revolution and said "God's hand... snatched my country from the edge of calamity."

The leader of Asia's most Roman Catholic country met with the Pope at the conclusion of a three-day visit to Italy.

The Philippine Catholic church played a major role in the "people power" revolution that brought Aquino to power and ended 20 years of rule by Marcos.

Amman Rotary Club: 36 years of community service

Sa'ad G. Hattar reports on the activities of the Amman Rotary Club

AMMAN — Since its founding 36 years ago, the Amman Rotary Club (ARC) has contributed to setting up more than 20 community service projects at an average cost of JD 8,000 a year.

Established in the early fifties, the club, a local branch of the Rotary International, has been instrumental in boosting the country's cultural and educational standards as well as fostering social interaction through a series of well organised programmes.

The ARC stands out among local assemblies as one of the most active clubs, with far-reaching multi-purpose programmes for the benefit of both its members and the community at large.

In a recent interview with the Jordan Times, Ra'ouf Abu Jaber, a veteran Rotarian, made a chronological review of the development of the ARC and the projects to which it contributed in the country.

This year's ARC project is targeted towards setting up an integral social centre in Al Quweismeh housing complex, one of the urban development projects in the Kingdom.

The centre, to be set up in cooperation with the Urban Development Department (UDD), is estimated to cost between JD 40,000 and JD 42,000. Due to start in July of this year, construction of the centre is expected to last for 18 months. The centre would consist of an auditorium, a sewing teaching centre, a kindergarten, a children's playground and a dental clinic for children.

For its part, the UDD has allotted a 12-dunum piece of land

towards the project while the ARC plans to contribute as much as JD 12,000 in members' donations. The Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund has undertaken to meet the remaining JD 30,000 for the centre.

Rotarians in Jordan are currently engaged in a world-wide effort targeted towards wiping out all diseases which strike children, most notably polio.

The "Polio Plus" project, as it is labelled, is yet another indicator of Rotary International's contribution towards improving the living standards of children in the world.

The ARC has already met 50 per cent of its share of \$26,000 towards the \$120 million Polio Plus project. Jordan is one of dozens of beneficiaries throughout the world. The project will provide for supplying ambulances, technicians, and vaccinations and other health-related apparatus.

Having begun earlier this year, the Polio Plus project has already pumped \$26 million into Sudan, \$28 million into Turkey, and \$22 million into India.

Although South Yemen does not have a local Rotary Club, it is to benefit from the Polio Plus project, and Jordan-based Rotarians were named as sponsors for that effort.

Over the years in Jordan, one project stands out as the most costly and well planned. It was a health service programme to combat the spread of tuberculosis in the Kingdom in 1972. Approximately \$100,000 in the form of pharmaceutical products and medical equipment were invested



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the opening ceremony of the Rotary Club's social centre on July 15, 1979. Mr. Rauf Abu Jaber is on the Crown Prince's right (File photo)

social centre on July 15, 1979. Mr. Rauf Abu Jaber is on the Crown Prince's right (File photo)

in the project, which was carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Health.

In that particular project, International Rotarian Clubs offered contributions in cooperation with Jordan-based Rotarians which helped realise optimum benefits.

In the aftermath of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, the club presented the Jordan Red Crescent (JRC) with a fully-equipped vehicle for field medical operations. The club had ordered the vehicle before the war erupted and the delivery was made just in time to cater for war victims.

Those were just few of many community service projects designed to improve the living conditions of the country's less privileged citizens.

Many people, however, have the impression that accessibility to the Amman Rotary Club is

limited to "the most privileged segment of society."

Furthermore, there is a widely-held conception that the club's various programmes and activities are almost always geared to the benefit of the upper class, accusing the club of classism.

In his interview with the Jordan Times, Abu Jaber sought to dispel what he termed as misleading information about the essence of Rotary Club's activities in the Kingdom.

"We are not selective as to the admission of new members," said Abu Jaber who was the only Jordanian to assume the post of governor for the Middle East Rotary circuit. The circuit includes clubs in Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Cyprus and Bahrain.

"As far as membership is concerned, we strictly follow the Rotary International charter which is universally adhered to."

Abu Jaber went on to say that "only the pioneer in each trade" is eligible for membership. Abu Jaber also defends the club against charges of elitism. "The Rotary's objective lies in encouraging and fostering the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men united in the ideal of service. It is a worldwide network of cooperation and understanding for a better world," the club's charter states.

Established in 1956, the 80-member Amman Rotary Club became a de jure member of a worldwide network of 20,000 clubs with more than 900,000 Rotarians in 157 countries and geographical regions.

Yet, the club bears local characteristics and a Jordanian hallmark. Furthermore, according to Abu Jaber, Jordanian Rotarians

are always ready for voluntary work and financial contributions for the under privileged. Those activities run parallel to the intellectual programmes directed to the Kingdom's intelligentsia. Those programmes include lectures by key intellectuals and public figures.

In the same vein, the Rotarians meet every Tuesday to discuss topical issues, and often, they invite a renowned think-tank member or a pioneer in his/her field to address the assembly.

Last month, the ARC honoured a veteran Rotarian for his relentless endeavours towards upgrading the Jordanian economy at the turn of the century.

Haj Mohammad Ali Budeir, the first Jordanian to set up a public share holding company in the 1920s, was given a warm reception and a plaque acknowledging his services to the country.

Such an assembly is commonplace. Because Rotary International charters restrict membership to no more than 80 members two other clubs came to being in Amman to meet the growing demand for such institutions.

The Philadelphia Club and the Amman Petra Club grouping 65 and 52 members respectively, have been registered since 1956. The Inner Wheel, an umbrella assembly for the wives of Rotarians, is also active in various domains of community service. It groups 45 women at the ARC and 42 at the Philadelphia Club.

The foremost objective of the Rotary Club remains to broaden the scope of inter-communal cooperation with a view to offer optimum services to society. And so the Rotarians join hands with the "inner wheelers" for a better society and a prospering country.

Hepatitis B — highly risky, easily avoidable

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Hepatitis B (HBV), a viral disease which attacks the liver possibly leading to cancer of the liver and eventual death, kills an estimated 2 million people worldwide per year. Five per cent of the world's population are carriers. More than 1,000 million people have been infected by the virus; more than 200 million are chronic carriers, and more than 50 million new infections occur annually.

One in five carriers will die prematurely as a result of liver cancer.

In Jordan, approximately 10 per cent of the population are carriers, according to World Health Organisation (WHO) figures.

Because Jordan lies in the high endemicity carrier rates — between 5 and 15 per cent — and because of consequences resulting in a high mortality rate, HBV can be considered a serious problem in the country, according to a specialist in liver disease at the University of Jordan Hospital.

Dr. Ala' Toukan, the specialist, recently returned from a WHO conference on HBV in Saudi Arabia. He said that it was found that the Middle East was one of the worst areas facing HBV. It stood third after Africa and parts of Southeast Asia.

According to figures, as much as 14 per cent of the population in some parts of the Middle East are suspected carriers. With such a high percentage of carriers, it is estimated that 70 to 95 per cent of the population in the area are exposed to the virus.

Blood test
In an interview with the Jordan Times, Toukan said that the problem is that these carriers have no way of knowing they carry the virus unless a blood test is taken. Symptoms of the disease begin to show after some 20 to 30 years, when the patient develops liver cirrhosis or cancer. The bigger problem is that carriers can in many ways pass on the virus to others without realising it.

He added that the society has undertaken campaigns with the Ministry of Education to work in schools outside Amman — in Karak, Ma'an, Tafel, and so on — last year. This year, he said, awareness campaigns are being made at UNRWA schools at refugee camps.

"Specialised physicians give lectures to the students and teachers in UNRWA schools, and to mothers and so on, and the awareness campaign on HBV will continue," Toukan asserted.

He explained, however, that it is very difficult to inform people and make them aware of the dangers of HBV because of cul-

ture reasons. "We can't tell children not to take care of their little brothers and sisters and not to kiss each other. We can't tell people not to drink coffee from others' cups for example. We have to be very careful in how to handle their education on the forms of HBV transmission. It needs thorough research into how to convince people to be cautious," Toukan said.

Vaccination
The doctor added that the society also supports research projects into HBV, and broadcasts its findings through the media, mainly newspapers. Furthermore, the society offers financial support to poor patients by paying their hospital bills. The group of physicians also sponsored a one-day seminar last year where specialists spoke about hepatitis B.

The best prevention against this virus is vaccination. There are already various types of anti-HBV vaccines available, but according to Toukan it is not yet feasible to conduct mass vaccinations in this field.

"Because of its expense and limited availability we are unable to conduct mass vaccinations against HBV. In fact, the only two countries that do that are Saudi Arabia, because they can afford it, and South Korea, because they manufacture a vaccine that costs less than \$1," Toukan said. He adds that Western countries vaccinate only their high risk groups.

Each vaccination course in Jordan costs up to JD 7. "The cost must fall to less than 300 fils in order to formulate a vaccination campaign for everyone," he stressed.

He indicated, however, that high risk groups in the Kingdom are being vaccinated. Vaccination is given to families of carriers, and health care workers who are highly exposed to infection. Doctors, nurses, dentists and other health workers deal with injured patients who could be HBV carriers, they are normally vaccinated, "but only erratically; it is not a unified campaign," Toukan stated.

The doctor warned that although poorer people are predominantly the ones who are most prone to getting HBV, those who are better off can also catch it because "we live in a high endemicity region, we are always prone to get it," Toukan said.

Until mass vaccination becomes feasible, people should be cautious by discouraging children from using others' toothbrushes and sharing washing materials. In general, hygiene should be maintained in the presence of others, Toukan said.



The Rotary Club's children's library presented to the Amman Municipality in 1974 (File photo)

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 10:00 Agaba (RJ) 10:15 Jeddah (RJ) 10:30 Larnaca (RJ) 10:40 Cairo (RJ) 10:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 11:00 Kuwait (RJ) 11:15 Rome (AZ) 11:30 Baghdad (IA) 11:45 Cairo (MS) 11:50 Bahrain, Doha, Sharjah (GF) 12:00 Tripoli (LN) 12:15 Jeddah (SV) 12:30 Dubai (EK) 12:45 Athens (OA) 12:50 Sana'a (LH) 20:15 OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2) 06:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH) 06:30 Cairo, London (BA) 06:40 Damascus, Paris (AF) 06:50 Larnaca, Berlin (BER) 12:20 Kuwait (RJ) 12:35 Rome (AZ) 14:00 Baghdad (IA) 14:05 Cairo (MS) 14:30 Bahrain, Doha, Sharjah (GF) 14:45 Tripoli (LN) 15:35 Jeddah (SV) 17:00 Dubai (EK) 18:20 Athens (OA) 20:15 Sana'a (LH) MONEY EXCHANGE Saturday rates Belgian franc (for 10) 99.2 / 100.2 Dutch guilder 184.9 / 186.7 French franc 61.4 / 62 Italian lira (for 100) 27.9 / 28.2 Japanese yen (for 100) 253.9 / 256.6 Swedish crown 39.5 / 40.1 Swiss franc 249.2 / 251.7 U.K. sterling pound 646 / 653.5 U.S. dollar 355.2 / 359.2 W. German mark 207.5 / 209.6 PRAYER TIMES 05:46 Fajr 05:23 (Sunrise) Dhuha 12:57 Dhuha 14:20 'Asr 19:51 Maghrib 21:28 Isha DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 07:45 Agaba (RJ) 11:30 Salalah (RJ) 11:45 Rome (RJ) 12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ) 12:20 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) 12:40 Istanbul (RJ) 12:50 Cairo (RJ) 20:40 Kuwait (RJ) EMERGENCIES Amman governorate 891228 Amman Civil Defence 198, 199 Civil Defence (Held) 271293, 273131 Civil Defence (Overseas) 707033 Civil Defence (Defence) 5706 Ambulance 193, 775111 Amman downtown fire brigade 198 First aid 630341 Blood bank 770303 Civil Defence rescue 611111 Fire headquarters 622090-3 Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777 Police headquarters 639141 Traffic police 636304, 624881 Electric Power Co. 771101/3 Municipal water complaints 77125/8 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 533060 HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 81381/32 Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6 Al-Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 644412 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 Malhas, J. Amman 636140 Palestine, Shamsi 664171/4 Shamsi Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845945/65 Al-Muhsin Hospital 66727/77 The Islamic, Abdal 666127/77 Al-Ahli, Abdal 664164/6 Inkhar, Al-Muhsin 77101/3 Al-Badri, J. Amman 775111/25 Azmy, Mafta 891611/15 Queen Alia Hospital 60240/50 Amal Hospital 674155 TAXIS Taksi taxi 640031 Venice taxi 644584 Ardour taxi 622330 Taxis taxi 613581 Holiday taxi 663006 Sayed taxi 663100 Middle East taxi 604615 REPAIR Dr. Mohammad Al Shar (—) Al Sharah pharmacy 775285 ZARQA: Dr. Ra'ouf Atallah 99424 Khaldi pharmacy 989417		MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg. Apple (French) 400 / 360 Apricot 500 / 400 Banana 350 / 300 Banana (Mekammar) 300 / 250 Beans 90 / 80 Cabbage 90 / 80 Carrot 120 / 80 Cauliflower 140 / 100 Cherry (green) 300 / 250 Cherry (red) 650 / 500 Corn 90 / 80 Cucumber 150 / 120 Eggplant (large) 220 / 170 Eggplant (small) 130 / 140 Garlic 350 / 300 Grapes Lemon (yellow) 650 / 500 Lemon (green) 400 / 360 Mallow 380 / 320 Mint 120 / 80 Orange (dry) 80 / 30 Orange (Acad) 320 / 280 Olea 450 / 400 Peas 570 / 580 Pepper (hot) 420 / 350 Pepper (sweet) 420 / 350 Potato 160 / 120 Strawberry 800 / 700 Tomato 100 / 60 Watermelon 140 / 50 Sweetmelon 140 / 50	

السلامة العامة

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

NUCLEAR FREE ZONES: Jordan will take part in an international meeting to discuss nuclear free zones which is due to open in Berlin Sunday. Rizek Al Bataineh, who is chairman of the Lower House of Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, will represent Jordan at the meeting and deliver a speech on the Middle East question and disarmament in the region. Bataineh will leave Amman Sunday for the three-day meeting.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS: Director General of the Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company Ghazi Abu Hamdan Saturday discussed with Lebanese Ambassador Pierre Ziyadeh exchange of agricultural products between Lebanon and Jordan.

UNIVERSITY GRADUATION: University of Jordan Saturday held a graduation ceremony for its 23rd batch of students. University President Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali presented certificates to 45 students from the Faculty of Pharmacy, 62 students from the Faculty of Medicine, 111 students from the Faculty of Nursing, and 214 students from the Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

NEW SCHOOL FOR MAGHIR: The Ministry of Education has embarked on building a school in the town of Maghir in the Mafrqa governorate. The school which will have 18 classrooms is expected to cost JD 217,000 and will be ready for occupancy during 1988.

ACCOUNTANCY TRAINING: Two training courses in accountancy for government departments opened at the Institute of Public Administration in Amman Saturday. Forty accountants employed by government ministries took part in the 10-day courses.

BANK LOAN: The Cities and Villages Development Bank has approved a JD 35,000 loan to the Um Al Dananir Village Council in the Balqa governorate. The loan will finance the construction of roads.

Celebrations to mark Great Arab Revolt

KARAK (Petra) — The Ministry of Youth will Sunday start week-long celebrations in different governorates to mark the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt.

The celebrations entail youth and sports activities and seminars and lectures tackling the Great Arab Revolt, its impact on the lives of the Arab people and its effect on the process of movements in the Arab World.

The final event will be held at

the Palace of Culture under royal patronage when His Majesty King Hussein will receive the banner of the Great Arab Revolt carried from the city of Aqaba by a group of youths.

Taking part in the final celebration will be young men and women from various governorates, scouts, school and university students and the Armed Forces brass bands.

Hmoud meets Washington State University chief

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud met here Saturday with Washington State University President Samuel Smith to discuss cooperation in agriculture between the university and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The project supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture is designed to spread awareness among farmers on the employment of modern technology in farming.

Petra Festival ends

WADI MOUSA (Petra, J.T.) — An eight-day Petra Cultural Festival, organised by University of Jordan students, ended in the town of Wadi Mousa near the ancient Nabatean city Friday.

The festival included educational and entertaining activities which drew large numbers of Jordanians and foreign visitors. National songs and dances, traditional songs and cultural lectures and seminars were also part of the event — the first of its kind

in the Nabatean city.

The idea to hold the festival came from a group of Wadi Mousa undergraduate students at the University of Jordan, who were inspired by the success of the Jerash Festival, which was launched eight years ago by a student volunteer group and the staff of Yarmouk University.

The final activities were attended by the Ma'an governor and local officials.

Olympic team gets anti-hepatitis vaccine

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Smith Kline and French Pharmaceutical Company operating through the Muntir Sukhtian Company in Amman has provided anti-hepatitis vaccine to the Jordanian National Olympic Team, which will take part in the Seoul Olympics in September 1988.

The vaccine was prepared in recent years as the most up to date treatment in the course of genetic engineering and fermentation.

It replaces the outdated plasma derived vaccines which entailed the risk of blood contamination.

The new vaccine entered Jordan's markets in early 1987 after international preliminary tests proved successful.

The company representative in Jordan, Sabar Bushnaq, presented the vaccine to Dr. Muwaffaq Al Fawwaz, president of the Jordanian National Olympic Committee.

4 unions reject law to unify allowances

AMMAN (J.T.) — Four Jordanian professional unions have rejected a government-proposed law to unify allowances granted to government employees including teachers, doctors, nurses, engineers and others.

They said they will soon submit a joint memorandum to a ministerial committee which is studying the application of the proposed law.

The rejection was voiced by the presidents of the engineering, medical, agricultural engineers and dentists associations at meetings held at the Professional Association Complex in Amman Friday.

The government has proposed that through this ministerial commission, equality is to be achieved among its employees who are receiving allowances at different levels in accordance with their university degrees and their technical capabilities.

The associations presidents who spoke at the meetings outlined their efforts to dissuade the government from taking such a step. They were unanimous in rejecting the new law which, they said, was unjust and does not

serve the aims of the national development schemes.

"If the projected law is applied," they said "it will be instrumental in encouraging technicians and professionals with high degrees to seek work abroad, thus draining the Kingdom of essential elements for development and progress, which is a national goal."

They said if the government aims to steer students towards new fields of study and training and stem unemployment, it ought to do that through a balanced educational system and through new projects that can offer jobs to unemployed people.

The presidents criticised the draft law because it gives certain privileges and higher allowances to members of the diplomatic corps, employees of the Royal Court, the judicial sector and the Central Bank, and said that justice can be done through improving the wages of all sectors of employees on equal footing in view of the high cost of living in the country, and not by cutting on the allowances of skilled manpower.

ACF higher council calls on Arabs to promote research

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Council of the Arab Chemists Federation (ACF) opened a meeting in Amman Saturday and heard a call on the Arab World to promote chemical research work and prepare the ground to absorb developments in the technology of chemistry in the coming century.

The call was made by Dr. Adnan Badran, secretary general of the Higher Council of Science and Technology (HCST), who reviewed the Kingdom's scientific research programmes.

"We now stand on the thresh-

hold of a new and serious endeavour to give momentum to national research work in science and technology, which ought to be used for the service of Arab people," Badran said.

Jordan, he said, has realised "the great responsibility of the coming century and its challenges, and has embarked on a process of modernising the educational process from its roots, starting at the elementary level and moving upwards to the secondary level, and soon it will introduce modernisation and development in higher education."

Badran said that the HCST was established to promote research work and technology so that they can contribute to the country's national development.

Dr. Ahmad Haj Sa'id, the council's president, delivered a speech emphasising the role of chemists in building an advanced Arab industry and paid tribute to Jordan's efforts in planning and implementing educational policies at different levels and employing modern technology in various fields.

Dr. Mohammad Salameh, the federation's assistant secretary general, and Dr. Qasim Shunna, the president of the Jordanian Chemists Association (JCA), delivered speeches referring to the role of Arab chemists in the Arab World's development.

The two-day meeting will discuss the federation's financial and administrative report, the return of the Egyptian Chemists Association to the federation and the compilation of an Arab lexicon on chemistry.

The two-day meeting paves the ground for the federation's eighth meeting to open here Monday in which 125 chemists from the Arab countries and Jordan will take part.

At least 95 working papers are to be discussed by the delegations in the three-day meeting, covering petrochemicals, teaching of chemistry in the Arab World and other related topics.



The Higher Council of the Arab Chemists Federation opens a meeting in Amman Saturday (Petra photo)

Health minister receives report on Jordan's birth-spacing programme

AMMAN (J.T.) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Saturday received a report on the progress of a birth-spacing programme being implemented in Jordan by the "Ronco" establishment, which is based in the United States.

Ronco Vice President Alice Morton and the establishment's director of birth-spacing programme Abdul Razzaq Thuraayya, who met Hamzeh in his office, said that the programme was progressing well on the training

of Jordanian personnel who will give advice on birth-spacing.

The trainees are all doctors and midwives employed by the Ministry of Health, and their programme is being financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), according to Dr. Suleiman Qubain, a senior Ministry of Health official.

Qubain, who attended the meeting with the minister, told the Jordan Times that USAID

normally finances similar programmes carried out by "Ronco" in other parts of the world. Ronco, he added, is specialised in providing health care advice to health authorities and offers training to personnel in different countries.

Speaking at the meeting, Dr. Hamzeh said that health centres are now spreading in all parts of rural Jordan, and doctors carry out primary health care services not only at the centres but also at schools and mother and child care centres.

Coinciding with the meeting at the Health Ministry, a course attended by doctors and midwives on birth spacing ended in Karak Saturday.

The participants in the two-week course did practical work which included discovery of dangerous pregnancies and heard lectures on breast-feeding and birth-spacing.

Hammouri voices support for cultural organisations

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri said Saturday that the government will not spare any effort to support various cultural organisations and provide assistance that can give impetus to the cultural and literary movement in the Kingdom.

The minister was addressing the opening session of a training course in the use of computers in public libraries and information centres organised by the Jordan Library Association (JLA) in cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

He said until recently libraries in Jordan and the Arab World had been using the traditional and manual style of handling and storing books, but modernisation

had to be introduced so that Arab researchers can easily obtain information from a greater number and larger variety of publications.

Some of the Jordanian libraries have developed and are efficiently employing computers in all their activities, the minister said. JLA President Farouk Maaz outlined the main topics to be given to the participants and noted that more and more libraries around the world are relying on computers for their work.

Computers can help in indexing, classification of books and periodicals, rapid acquisition of information and documentation, Maaz said.

A total of 24 librarians from Jordan and other Arab countries are taking part in the training course.

Passport department witnesses congestion

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Passports Department is currently witnessing congestion of people wishing to renew passports, obtain temporary ones for crossing into the occupied Arab territories, or seeking permits for performing this year's pilgrimage rites in Mecca.

Department Director Issa Omari was reported by Al Ra'i Arabic daily as saying that additional number of employees have been recruited to help carry out the work and to stay behind after office hours if need be, to complete all procedures.

The report said that the congestion resulted from the return of the expatriates to spend their holidays here, the end of the school term which requires students to obtain passports if they wish to travel abroad for study and preparations for the pilgrimage season next month.

According to Omari the department will issue permits to pilgrims from Palestinian land occupied since 1948 for departure to Saudi Arabia as soon as it receives notification from the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the names of those allowed to leave.

Woman sentenced to death for murder

AMMAN (J.T.) — The criminal court has sentenced a 19-year-old woman identified only as Sa S to death by hanging for murdering her four-year-old stepson.

A report in Al Dustour Arabic daily said that the court found the woman guilty of drowning the four-year-old boy, identified as Samer A.D. in a waterwell to get rid of him because, she said, he had been giving her a lot of trouble and needed constant care.

The woman is the second wife of the children's father who had divorced his former wife and married her to look after his three young children including the dead boy, according to the report.

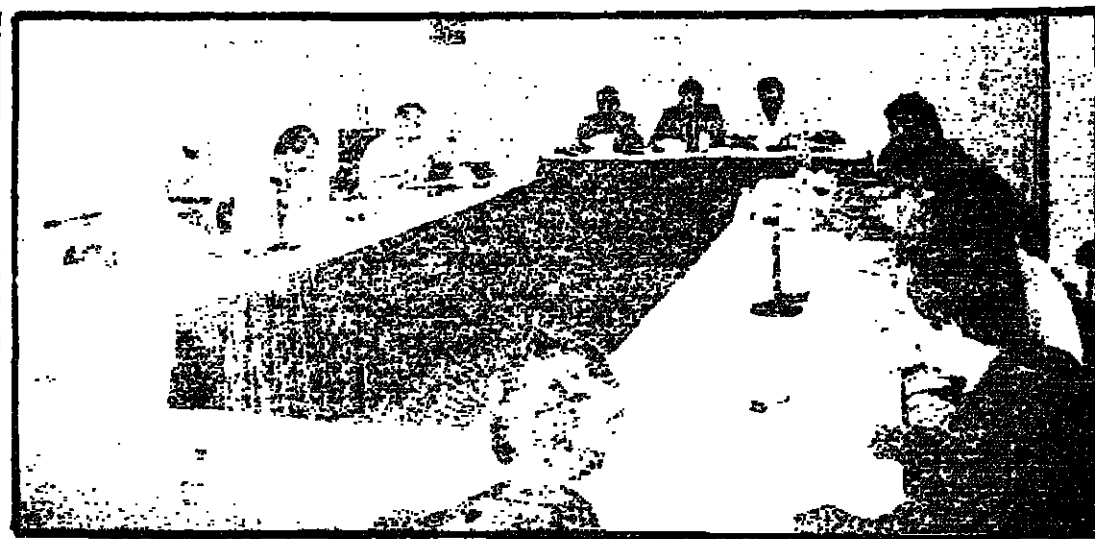
It said that the body of the boy was not discovered until a few days later by the well's owner

identified as H.A. from Rahaba village in the Irbid region where the crime was committed.

The paper said that the murder took place in the absence of the children's father whose work takes him away from home for several days.

Meanwhile, the military court in Amman was reported by the local press as nearing the end of hearings in the case of a seven-member group of murderers who killed four people and stole JD 19,000 from a military bus.

Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that the court has heard the testimony of 12 witnesses and was holding its 12 session Saturday before deliberating over the verdict, expected to be announced in the coming few days.



Delegates from Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Sudan attended the closing session of a five-day symposium on protection of agricultural workers against occupational injuries in Amman Saturday (Petra photo)

Meeting calls for fund to help Arab farmers

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A five-day symposium on the question of providing protection to farmers and agricultural workers against occupational injuries, ended in Amman Saturday with a call by delegates on Arab countries to include agricultural workers in social security systems and offer them security and protection against risks and other dangers.

The symposium also appealed to the Arab governments to help establish a special fund that can offer proper compensation to farmers in drought years and urged the Arab Common Market to help find solutions for problems encountered in marketing agricultural produce.

The symposium which opened here last Tuesday was attended by delegates from Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Sudan, and the deliberations covered means to help Arab farmers confront occupational risks and overcome disasters.

The delegates called on Arab

states to ratify and implement all agreements adopted by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) concerning securities for workers in agriculture, and to give protection to the rights of these workers while working in other Arab countries.

They also called on social security organisations in Arab countries to work out a detailed statistical study on agricultural workers and their distribution, so that it can benefit planners and policy-makers in working out social security measures for them.

The delegates called on employers to take the proper mea-

sures which can give ample protection to their workers, and to spread awareness on health protection among workers and farmers alike.

The five-day meeting was opened by Social Security Corporation (SSC) Director General Mahdi Farhan who called for social security systems to provide protection to agricultural workers.

The delegates reviewed working papers submitted by the participating countries and heard lectures on social security for workers.

At the closing session the delegates voiced their appreciation to Jordan for hosting the symposium and the facilities given to the delegates to make their meeting a success.

Farhan, who addressed the closing session, said that Jordan will give its total support for pan-Arab action and will coordinate its work in social security matters with Arab organisations.

Tawjihi exams begin today

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Students of the top secondary class (Tawjihi) and the third preparatory class at Jordanian schools in the East Bank will Sunday begin an examination session marking the end of the 1987-1988 scholastic year.

Officials at the Ministry of Education, which is organising the examinations, said that 51,783 students will take Tawjihi examination at 726 halls in various provinces.

The students are taking examinations in literary, scientific,

agricultural, industrial, nursing and hotel management streams, according to these officials.

They said at the same time there will be an additional 897 examination halls available for some 63,968 students who completed the third preparatory class to determine their acceptance in the first secondary school in the 1988-1989 scholastic year.

The ministry said earlier that it has set up a special committee to deal with the question of examinations for students in the occupied Arab territories, in view

of the uprising there and the closure of schools and universities for the past six months.

Ministry of Education's Secretary General Munther Al Masri was quoted by the local press as saying that the Tawjihi students will be either exempted from taking the end-of-year examinations or they will be allowed to complete their study of the subject matter in the summer.

The examinations which start Sunday will last until the end of this month.

Experts call for revision of educational system in Arab World

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Arab education experts here in Amman called for a comprehensive and detailed revision of the whole educational system in the Arab World with a view to substituting "the logic of the able for the logic of the helpless."

The regional meeting of experts for the "universalisation and renewal of primary education and the eradication of illiteracy in Arab states by the year 2000," opened here Saturday to consider ways and means to cope with illiteracy problems in the Arab World which stand at 56 per cent illiteracy rate among males and 70 per cent among females.

In the opening session of the meeting, Dr. Mohammad Kazem, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Culture Organisation (UNESCO) regional coordinator in the Arab states and director of UNEDBAS (United Nations Regional Office for Education in the Arab States) told participants that challenges have accumulated and "what confronts us is the pressing need to view matters in their proper perspective."

Kazem added that the core of the issue is that the nowadays life, based on renewal and coping with change, "for progress by definition is a process of continuous renewal and renewal is inevitably a permanent element."

He pointed out that the world is currently suffering from population increase, "a phenomenon that has been termed population explosion," yet Kazem felt that this problem should be turned into a "renewable source of power and prestige, if only we benefit from the fruits of science, technology, knowledge explosion and instant communication and information."

Kazem stressed that "this is what it should be."

Explaining the goal set by the year 2000, Kazem said this vision, implies the challenge of "creating a pertinent and relevant education" that draws on the "cultural identity and leads" to cultural

development, which have the best chances of trustworthy orientation and optimal speed.

Kazem said that the talk in this meeting should focus on a "dynamic societal movement where formal education runs parallel with other forms of education," the starting point of which, Kazem added, should be basic education and the development of human potentials so as to be able to offer what is more than mere subsistence.

The role of UNESCO and international cooperation in this field, Kazem pointed out, is to help the Arab Nation release its energies to achieve the cultural equality with other cultures, "rather than ruminating talk about cultural invasion and cultural domination," Kazem said.

He added that UNESCO's role is also to enhance the efforts of the Arab Nation, both regionally, to be worthy of survival through the ability to contribute to the movement of the international community towards a better future for all.

Speaking on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Thoukan Al Hindawi, secretary general of the ministry, Munther Al Masri briefly discussed Jordan's role, over the past three years, in giving due process and importance to education in the Kingdom under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

He explained that Jordan has reviewed all facets of education in the country in which all cadres of the government and public institution have participated.

Jordan, Masri said, has since held a national conference for development of education and has adopted a resolution in which the minimum mandatory period of education for all Jordanian citizens is ten years rather than nine.

Other resolutions adopted by the national education conference were ones which constituted a "well-studied development plan for the Hashemite Kingdom," Masri said.

He reiterated Jordan's support for the universalisation and re-

newal of primary education and the eradication of illiteracy in the Arab World, and the importance of setting the goal by the year 2000. Masri stressed the importance of the subjects to be discussed at the meeting and the challenge it presents to the education specialists.

Dr. Musari Al Rawi, representative of Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (ALECSO), praised the high level of coordination and cooperation between ALECSO and UNESCO to avoid duplicity in efforts by ALECSO to improve the education level in the Arab World.

Rawi pointed out that the Arab World is unique in that it has a representative education body in the Arab League unlike other parts of the world who all belong to the UNESCO.

An educational specialist from ABEGS (Arab Bureau for Education in the Gulf States), Hikmat Al Bazzaz, deputising for Dr. Ali Tuwaijri, director of ABEGS, also reiterated the Gulf countries' support for efforts to eradicate illiteracy and universalise education in the Arab World.

Al Bazzaz also expressed his organisation's hope that the meeting of education experts

"would transfer theories into practical application, which would help the Arab World reach a united Arab effort in the educational and social development of the Arab World."

The regional meeting of experts, held in Amman from June 18-21, is expected to discuss in its sessions the objectives and modalities of cooperation between UNESCO and member states, the ALECSO regional Arab project for universalisation of primary education and eradication of illiteracy, UNESCO major project for education in Latin America, the regional project in Asia.

The main document of the meeting will be on the regional project or universalisation of primary education and the eradication of illiteracy in Arab states by the year 2000, which will be discussed Sunday with special emphasis on justifications, objectives and priorities, activities, management and coordination on the programme, financing the programme and the target date for the project.

The final session of the meeting will be Tuesday during which there will be presentation of the final report and recommendations.

Amman, June 16, 1988

The Spanish Embassy in Amman has a vacancy with the following characteristics:

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Salary: Assigned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain.
Working Hours: Six days, working up to 37 hours weekly

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Typewriting in Spanish and Arabic, knowledge of administrative practices.
2. Sound knowledge of Spanish and Arabic.
3. Merit. Knowledge of English language.

Petitions should be addressed to the Spanish Embassy and those interested may call at this Mission within twenty days' as from the above mentioned date.

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Anybody there?

IT is not easy to draw lessons from the mini flurry of interest in Washington about the recent statement by Mr. Bassam Abu Sherif, senior adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, on prospects for a negotiated Arab-Israeli peace settlement based on Israeli and Palestinian states living side by side. We have always felt that more clarity from the Arab side on the possibility of a negotiated settlement would probably help achieve such a settlement. But we are also convinced that even if the Arabs were more clear about their peaceful intentions, the Israelis and the Americans would probably find new obstacles to place in the way of a solution which was based on the Palestinian right to national self-determination. We'd be delighted to be proven wrong.

Nevertheless, the PLO does well to communicate to western audiences its vision of a Middle East blessed with justice, peace and tranquillity. The key dynamic in such a situation, we feel, is the nature and extent of American reciprocity. We don't expect Israelis to leap up and run for the negotiating table. But we do expect the American government to respond actively and constructively if, while it seeks to play the mediator's role, one of the protagonists proposes a process of justice and reconciliation which could lead to a stable peace. The peace-making effort will not succeed in one fell swoop. It will come in small, incremental steps, building upon one another until there is sufficient confidence for the protagonists to take the final leap forward. Mr. Abu Sherif — presumably representing the thoughts of his boss and of the PLO majority — has taken just such a step. He has articulated with some clarity a position that the PLO and the Arab states have always preferred to convey in slightly more cryptic terms. We anxiously await a response from Washington, or from Israel. Will we hear voices from there which speak of Israelis, Palestinians and other Arabs living in peace and with equal rights? We're listening.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Shamir's defiance

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has announced that his government will not implement a ruling by an international arbitration commission about the occupied Sinai enclave of Tabah which belongs to Egypt. With this statement, Shamir has thus provided yet another evidence that Israel will not give up occupied Arab territory no matter how small its size is and regardless of the international laws and U.N. resolutions. This is a clear defiance of international laws and a mockery of international norms and rules. It shows how determined Israel is to pursue its policies of aggression on the Arab countries and maintain its occupation of their lands by force, of course at the expense of peace in the Middle East. Shamir's statement came in advance of the commission's final ruling on the Tabah issue, clearly displaying his government's total disregard to the commission's decisions and its separate peace treaty with Egypt. But of course Egypt will not remain passive vis-a-vis Israel's intransigent position and can never abandon its rights in Tabah. Egypt will not doubt cling to its lawful right; and this could lead Egypt to abandon the Camp David agreements, something which observers believe is most feared by the United States, the architect of these agreements. The Tabah question is a good lesson for the Arabs to learn in their dealings with Israel. Israel's intransigence over that issue clearly shows that it is not concerned with peace with the Arabs as long as that peace means a return of Arab land to its lawful owners. Israel is concerned with imposing capitulation on the Arab Nation while at the same time maintaining its hold over their territory.

Al Dustour: Israel committed to oppression

AS the uprising continues unabated in the occupied Arab territories, Israel is now opting to new measures that further demonstrate its criminal nature. Israel's defence minister has issued new orders to his troops and the Jewish settlers to open fire on Arab protesters who throw molotov cocktails from Israeli vehicles and to demolish the homes of Arab people accused by the Israeli authorities of joining the resistance. By these measures, Rabin hopes to stifle the spirit of Arab resistance and quell the protests which his troops have proved to be unable to control any more. Rabin's new measures manifest Israel as a state totally committed to acts of terrorism and oppression against Arab civilians seeking freedom from foreign rule. The escalation of Israeli inhuman measures against the Arab population in this dangerous manner, shows that Israeli leaders have lost their minds and are no longer acting as humans respecting international laws. This is a clear sign that they are sooner or later bound to lose their battle against the oppressed people who are intent on achieving freedom. We deeply respect the Arab people and their sacrifices and are confident that their just struggle will be crowned with success.



Samih Husni — Sawt Al Shaab

Sawt Al Shaab: Source of pride

THE new Iraqi successes in the battlefield constitute a source of pride for the whole Arab Nation; and the heroic struggle of the Iraqi armed forces point a bright picture of future generations. The Iraqis who have been rejecting all calls for peace and making a mockery of the international laws are being dealt one defeat after another at the eastern Bank of the Arab World. The Iraqi armed forces' liberation of the Pao peninsula marked the beginning of a series of rapid victories for Iraq along the whole length of the battlefield with Iran. These victories are being reflected in Palestine where the uprising is being intensified and Arab youths are heroically confronting the Israeli aggressors and thwarting their designs and conspiracies. The Iraqi armed forces' endeavours to liberate their land and to establish peace in the Gulf should prove to the Iraqis that they cannot export their terrorism to the Arab countries, and that their Israeli-like tactics and aggression would not serve their ambition.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

At last, interest rates floated

AT long last, the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has decided to float interest rates on all kinds of direct credit extended by banks and finance corporations and on certain categories of deposits. Although this major step was long over-due, what counts now is that it was adopted with immediate effect.

The new banking regulations issued by the Central Bank (see the newspapers of 8/6/1988) included among other things, the cancellation of the ceiling which was imposed on Certificates of Deposits (CD's), previously 7.375 per cent per annum, and the abolishing of the ceilings set for commissions chargeable on loans and other credit.

As of now, the depositor and his banker can agree on any interest rate on CD's, provided the amount of the CD is not less than JD 1000 and its term is not less than three months. We expect interest rates on sizeable CD's to shoot up to 10 per cent.

Deposits can, and in fact should, shift all or part of their time deposits upon maturity into CD's, in order to earn the higher interest commanded by this form of deposits.

In doing so, the depositor is not required to make any sacrifice. As a matter of fact a CD is the best and most convenient form of deposits. A CD can be sold, negotiated, discounted, or pledged as a collateral for credit, as may suit the holder at any point in time before its redemption. CD's are also nominal and accordingly the owner is protected if the document was lost or stolen.

Since interest on CD's is now floating, we can assume that the cancellation of ceilings on interest payable on all other forms of deposits is a matter of time.

The second measure taken by the Central Bank means full fledged floating of interest rates on all forms of bank facilities. The overall interest or cost charged by banks to borrowers is comprised of two components: interest with a ceiling of 8 per cent p.a. and commission which used to have a ceiling of 1 to 1.5 per cent per annum which is

now unrestricted and can be negotiated between the bank and the borrower. Thus the overall interest became fully free as it can go up or down by changing the commission component as agreed from time to time between lenders and borrowers. The ceiling on the interest component is thus redundant and meaningless.

From now on, the overall interest rates on banks credit will vary in accordance with the risk and financial soundness of the borrower concerned. We expect the basic rate for the prime borrowers to be 10 per cent, going up to any level to reflect the risk rating assigned to each customer. The result is obviously that borrowed funds will become more costly. This may push many businessmen and traders to use their own capital rather than borrowed money.

This desired objective is also confirmed by the Central Bank orders to the banks not to grant any credit by virtue of pledging deposits in foreign currencies as collateral. Such credit must be liquidated within three months. The practice which is now prevented by the Central Bank used to allow small businessmen to send their own capital abroad in foreign exchange and work locally with borrowed funds. They were able to earn free of tax interest on their foreign deposits while using the interest paid on their JD loans to shield their profits from income tax.

The measure taken by the Central Bank has far reaching consequences. Businessmen should understand it well and know how to deal with it. For the first time we offered an incentive to serve the public good, while most previous incentives were costly to the Treasury and did not achieve except the profiteering of certain groups.

We congratulated the Central Bank for finally taking the proper measure of floating interest rates. At last, we in this column, have something to celebrate.

'Basel was running with his mother, 50 metres from home, when an Israeli army sniper shot him in the head'

Editor's note: The Palestinian Human Rights Information Centre (PHRIC) in Jerusalem has been publishing an "uprising update," which aims to clarify the existing human rights situation as it develops in the occupied territories, as the uprising enters its sixth month. The information bulletin is distributed in cooperation with the Database Project on Palestinian Human Rights, whose international office is in Chicago. These updates will be published in the Jordan Times as they are received. Included in these information bulletins are lists of those killed during the uprising, as confirmed by the International Com-

mittee of the Red Cross, lists of detainees, and updated human rights reports as they develop. While some sources and background material is publicly available, most of the information comes from first hand reports, field-worker visits to hospitals, refugee camps, towns and villages, and from working relationships between the PHRIC and other institutions in the occupied territories. The material is collected and verified in Jerusalem and sent to Chicago, where the updates are produced and distributed internationally.

(From a report by a delegation from the North American Coordinating Committee of Non-Governmental Organisations on the Question of Palestine)

At about 12:30 p.m. at Rafah camp in Gaza on Jan. 9, 1988, all was quiet until some children began to hurl stones at a group of Israeli occupation soldiers posted near the border with Egypt. The soldiers responded by launching some 30-40 canisters of tear gas of various types. The residents began to flee, taking with them the small children in order to protect them from the gases. Many girls and young men were overcome. One baby of less than a year old who was gassed that day developed kidney trouble, was operated on and was hospitalised for some twenty days. Some of the young people tried to douse some of the canisters with water, but most simply ran.

One young man, Basel Khalil al-Yazuri was running near his mother about fifty metres from their house, when an Israeli army sniper shot him in the head. The bullet entered the left temple and was lodged in the back of Basel's brain.

Basel was rushed from the UN-RWA clinic in Rafah to the Nasr Hospital in nearby Khan Yunis. Basel's father, his two brothers Muhammad and Adli and two younger brothers followed in a private car. At an Israeli military checkpoint between Rafah and Khan Yunis, the IDF soldiers allowed the ambulance to pass, but forced the family to stop in their car and ordered them out of the car. Then they threw the father into the car with the two small boys, ordering them to stay inside. The soldiers ordered Basel's brothers to clean the street where a previous roadblock had been placed. They refused and protested that their brother was in the ambulance ahead and was critically injured and they needed to accompany him to the hospital.

Then the commanding officer called for two soldiers who "have no sensitivity" to beat the two brothers into submission. All fifty or so soldiers at the checkpoint came forward.

The soldiers beat them for some time until they submitted. After cleaning the debris from the street, the soldiers again began to beat the boys and ordered them to put a burning fire inside a nearby house. They refused again and the soldiers forced open the door to the house and shot a tear gas bomb inside the house. (It was later learned that this was the bomb that killed Wijdan Faris and her unborn baby). The licence number of the Israeli military vehicle carrying the soldiers that beat the al-Yazuri boys and launched the tear gas that killed Wijdan Faris is 758763.

At this point, while the soldiers continued beating, the father got out of the car and began to shout to the Israeli soldiers: "You've already killed one of my sons, are you now going to kill the others, too?" The commander permitted

them to go on to Nasr hospital. Meanwhile, Basel's mother and sisters came in another car with a neighbour, his wife and Basel's three young sisters, driving on the back roads. Upon arrival at Nasr hospital, Israeli soldiers there refused to allow them to enter. They hurled stones at Basel's mother, hitting her in the leg. The women continued to protest and finally ran into the hospital. Soldiers kept the driver in the car, hitting him and the car with their truncheons.

Basel lay in the emergency room, where X-rays were taken and he was given one unit of blood. The doctors decided that he would have to be transferred to Tel Hashomer in Tel Aviv. The family was told that a helicopter would be waiting for Basel in one of the settlements about a half hour away. After finally obtaining permission for the transfer, Basel, accompanied by his father, was driven to the settlement. Guards at the settlement prevented the ambulance from entering and an argument ensued. After some time the settlement guards allowed them to pass. They then discovered that there was no helicopter. They had no choice but to return to Nasr hospital. In the meantime, the oxygen supply in the ambulance was exhausted. The process took about one and one-half hours.

Nasr Hospital obtained another ambulance from the Israeli military command and proceeded north. (Ambulances are not allowed to use sirens in the Gaza District, since occupation authorities believe it may incite the people by alerting them to casualties). Once past the Erez checkpoint Israeli private cars impeded the passage of the ambulance with Gaza tags, refusing to pull over or other wise to allow the ambulance to pass. Basel's parents (in the ambulance) recount that the normally two-hour trip took four hours; and the oxygen supply in that ambulance also ran out.

Once at Tel Hashomer Hospital, the Arab doctors set up Basel with oxygen and IV fluids; the Israeli doctors, who then took over, refused to treat him and insisted no blood was available. The time was 7 p.m. The hospital staff refused to let the parents in to see Basel. Finally, however, the Arab doctors in the ambulance escorted Basel's mother into the emergency room "to say goodbye, at least."

That night the parents returned home to Gaza, and the father returned with his son-in-law and a neighbour in a private car to Tel Hashomer Hospital. They were told that there was no treatment for Basel and that no doctor would be available to see him, since this was the sabbath. The three took turns checking on his condition about every half hour. Finally, at night they found a secluded place in the trees somewhere to sleep in their car (People from the territories are forbidden to spend the night in Israel).

On the third day Basel died, having received no medical attention at all. His father was at his bedside at the moment his breathing and heart stopped on Monday morning at 8:20 a.m. Basel's father obtained the death certificate from a doctor in the hospital, but the Security Service in the hospital refused to allow him to take Basel's body to Gaza (They claimed it was essential to settle the \$1,000 hospital bill first). In fact, however, families of those killed by Israelis are almost never permitted to reclaim their dead.

Basel's father refused the demand for payment. "You killed my son and now you want me to pay," he said. The police were called to "mediate the situation between the father and the accounting office. Finally, the policeman said: "Don't worry, I'll know how to get it out of you later." And the body was first transferred to Abu Kabir, where an autopsy was to be performed. On Tuesday, Jan. 12, the body was returned to the Rafah military headquarters. The Israeli-

appointed mukhtar of the camp instructed the family to go to headquarters with no more than three family members for the burial. Instead the whole family showed up with some of the Shuyukh of the neighbourhood, in order to wash the body and give it a proper Muslim burial. The Israelis made the party wait two and one-half hours until 11:30 p.m. and then told them to go ahead to the cemetery to meet the body there. Soldiers surrounded the cemetery. Upon washing the body, the family saw that Basel was cut in a straight line from under his chin down to his crotch. A long cut had been made where his heart was and two cuts were made at his kidneys. The family believes that organs had been taken out to be used in transplants.

Ten days later, two days after the father was told that the killing was an accident that the army regretted and that an investigation would take place, the family home was attacked by soldiers. The picture of Basel and a sign identifying him as a martyr was torn down by the Israeli army. The soldiers beat Basel's mother and three of his sisters and tried to arrest his father. He pleaded with them and refused to be taken into custody because of his heart condition. Since the funeral, two of Basel's brothers have been arrested and imprisoned. A third brother stays away from home for fear of arrest.

What lies at the heart of Middle East arms buildup?

By John Fullerton
Reuter

CAIRO — The 65-ton armoured juggernaut hums across rough ground at 80 kilometres per hour and destroys its prey with a single shot from a laser-guided 120 mm gun at a range of 2,000 metres. The General Dynamics M-1A1, now deployed with America's NATO forces, is arguably the finest tank ever made and Egypt will be the first to acquire it outside the United States.

"Strictly speaking, the M-1A1 does not make a great deal of sense militarily for Egypt," said a foreign intelligence specialist based in Cairo.

"It's a political not a military weapon. It sets the stage for Egypt's re-emergence as a regional power... This is about national pride and self-esteem," he added. Analysts say the Middle East has spent some \$25 billion on arms in the past 10 years. There is no sign of a let-up in accelerating competition between major powers to sell or simply give advanced equipment to Arab states and Israel.

The potential buyers' interest has been whetted by fear of the 7½-year war between Iran and Iraq spreading. The desire to match Israel's military superiority and inter-Arab tussles for pre-eminence are other compelling factors.

But are high tech arms really needed when youths armed with stones confront Israel's modern army, when a Palestinian fighter clinging to a hang-glider penetrates Israeli air defences and Iran's relatively primitive Silk-worm missiles threaten Gulf ship-

ping?

A matter
of status?

Analysts say many new weapons are often largely symbols of national pride, armed forces' status and strategic ambition.

Syria has bought the latest Soviet fighter, the MiG-29, as part of President Hafez al-Assad's drive for military parity with Israel. Western diplomats estimate Damascus owes Moscow \$14 billion, mainly for arms purchases.

Jordan is reported to have chosen 20 Marcel Dassault Mirage 2000 combat aircraft against close competition from the Soviet plane and the European Tornado.

Kuwait is reported by Jane's Defence Weekly to have asked the Pentagon for 40 of America's most advanced strike aircraft, the McDonnell Douglas F-18, at a cost of \$1 billion.

Local and foreign analysts agree Egypt's re-equipping and restructuring of its armed forces is a useful case study of an Arab country refashioning its image at home and abroad.

Since Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979, there has been a switch from an aggressive defence policy aimed at Israel and backed by the Soviet Union, they say.

Army manpower has been cut from about one million to 400,000. What was essentially an infantry-based force has been developed into a more mobile, armoured formation through extensive re-equipping with Washington's help.

Serviceable Soviet armour has

been refurbished and obsolete equipment replaced with M-60 tanks and M-113 troop carriers.

Egypt plans to acquire 555 M-1A1s, of which the first 15 are expected to arrive in 1991. The remainder will be assembled locally at the rate of 120 a year.

The tank, the F-16 warplane and E2-C Hawkeye radar aircraft absorb the bulk of American military help worth \$1.2 billion a year.

The air force has 80 F-16s with 40 more on order while five Hawkeyes are in service, U.S. industry sources say.

A factory is now being built in Egypt to assemble the tanks, which carry advanced laminar armour, computerised fire-control, laser sight and low-light television. Production will cost Egypt an estimated \$1 billion.

Arms exporter

The publicly stated aim is to help develop industrial infrastructure, import American know-how and contribute to Egypt's own arms industry and military exports.

"The tank facility could be a regional centre, with potential exports to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Pakistan," said one Western arms salesman.

The value of Cairo's current arms sales are kept secret but unofficially estimated at about \$1 billion a year. They are primarily to Iraq in the form of artillery, ammunition and light aircraft such as 80 turboprop Tucanors, the last of which was delivered in April.

The Iran-Iraq war propelled Egypt back into the Arab World. In the past six months, 11 Arab

OPEN FORUM

Promoting peace

NEW ORLEANS: More than 2,000 media educators, researchers and advisers from around the world met here early this month to debate how mass communication could further the cause of peace. The gathering, organised as the 38th Convention of the International Communication Association, underscores growing dissatisfaction with media performance with respect to peace in national and international arenas.

For most researchers, flawed media approaches to peace are largely due to problematic journalistic models that have so far failed to grasp the basic meaning of the concept of peace. Whether Communist or Western, press coverage of peace-related issues and events has been accused as being both superficial and ideologically biased.

With respect to peace, some members of the academic strongly believe that the concept should transcend its traditional equation with mere absence of hostilities within and among nations to embrace more subtle aspects of human relations. This trend has been boosted by the establishment of respectable research institutions around the world. According to those evolving perspectives, the concept of peace should include issues like nuclear disarmament, elimination of physical hostilities, abolition of socio-economic inequalities and realisation of basic human values like freedom and justice.

Failure to give the concept of peace its due respect by Western journalism is mainly due to built-in flaws characterising the widely-held notion of objectivity. According to the criteria of objective journalism the notion of peace may not be too newsworthy to be capitalised on regularly. Peace is often conceived as a timely development which enters the consciousness of Western journalism only when it embodies a touch of drama and an outlook of timeliness. As a consequence, adoption of objectivity in newswork has precluded any commitment to the systematic coverage of peace as a "structural" phenomenon that manifests itself in fairly subtle ways.

Even when newsmen attempt to report peace news, their sense of commitment to neutrality and detachment seems to militate against interpretation and analysis. Peace news is thus presented in a scattered manner. Such approach seems to ignore not only the basic elements of peace, but it also offers a distorted image of the reality in which peace is pretended to prevail. Furthermore, because of the organisational limitations on newswork, only perspectives of those who have access to communication channels are transmitted to the public. Views of less researched groups and nations on peace are often ignored despite the fact that those groups may be striving for the realisation of truly righteous values.

In the Communist sphere of journalism, news media seem to be more systematically concerned with the concept of peace than their Western counterparts. Those acquainted with Soviet political rhetoric and media would strongly agree on the centrality of peace in Communist domestic and external communications. Unlike Western journalism, Soviet journalism reports news of peace in the widest sense possible with in-depth interpretation and analysis. International cooperation agreements and ventures in which the Soviet Union is involved are reported as peace news and so is the opening of new economic projects inside the Soviet Union.

On the other hand, one should not be oblivious to the ideological slant characterising Soviet news media in their coverage of peace events and issues. Labour strikes in capitalist countries are reported by Soviet media as peace news because they seek to bring about reforms to a capitalist system. On the other hand, recent domestic troubles in the Soviet Union are portrayed as unpacelike because they seek to undermine the socialist system of the Soviet state.

In light of the above-mentioned deficiencies associated with Western and Communist journalism with respect to peace, some researchers have proposed a restructuring of the basic concepts governing our views not only of peace, but of communication as well. A good starting point would be a return to the seminal views of John Dewey who was among the first to recognise the centrality of communication not only for the attainment of peace, but also for the survival of mankind in well. Some "participants in the ICA convention have suggested an expansion of peace education programmes in schools and universities around the world. They have also recommended paying special attention to the education of journalism students, the communicators of tomorrow on the need for a neutral commitment to the concept of peace in media work.

But given the ideological and political imperatives impinging on newswork, there does not seem to be much for the media to accomplish. One of the basic notions that we in the scholarly-journalistic community have come to firmly hold is the fallibility of the mass media to do miracles in a world where political, economic and military resources have a final say in deciding substantial outcomes. If mass media are accredited for anything in our search for peace, it is for their role as a complementary factor, only one among many. Yet, despite this seemingly gloomy reality, the reputable statement embodied into UNESCO Charter in 1948 that "since wars begin in the mind of man, it is in the mind of man that the defence of peace must be constructed" continues to be widely received worldwide.

Dr. Muhammad I. Ayish

السلامة للجميع

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli prisoners slash wrists

TEL AVIV (R) — Seventy-two Israeli prisoners slashed their wrists with razors and knives as a protest against conditions at Beersheba prison, a jail spokesman said Saturday. All of the prisoners were treated and released within the prison. The protest was the climax of three days of disturbances at bloc six of the prison, where criminal offenders refused to eat prison food or clean their cells, spokesman John Tester said. They demanded more time to walk about freely and more telephone calls. Tester said the prison at Beersheba in the Naqab Desert had been very hot because of the weather, and that the bloc held "difficult" prisoners. Prisoners began slashing their wrists Friday night. "After 2 a.m., the last one cut himself, the prison manager talked to them and told them what happened in the bloc was their own doing because of their misbehaviour," Tester said. "Once they start toeing the line, they'll get their privileges back." Tester said the manager told prisoners. He said prisoners had resumed eating and cleaning their cells Saturday, but he did not know if the crisis was over.

Iran charts seven supertankers

LONDON (R) — The National Iranian Tanker Company (NITC) chartered seven supertankers in the past week, London shipbrokers said Friday. They said that was an unusually large amount for any one firm to charter in such a short time. One tanker with a cargo capacity of 356,324 tonnes and a second with a capacity of 262,267 were chartered for six to 12 month periods to be used for storing oil, the brokers said. Iran is paying \$18,000 a day for each of them. In addition, Iran chartered the Liberian-flag tanker Eastern Courage, with a capacity of 267,807 tonnes, and the Greek-registered Faroship L., which can carry 268,951 tonnes, to be used on its Gulf shuttle service, at a rate of \$33,000 daily, the brokers said. Brokers said the Iranians chartered three supertankers for single trips from the Gulf.

U.S. unhappy over Senegalese move

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States protested to Senegal Friday for dropping charges against two Libyans arrested for allegedly carrying explosives. "The government of Senegal released, without trial, two known Libyan terrorists caught red-handed in Dakar airport last February attempting to smuggle arms and explosives into Senegal," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said. The two men were sent back to Libya Thursday, according to official spokesmen in Dakar. "We're extremely disappointed by Senegal's action," Redman said. "It raises questions about that country's commitment to the struggle against international terrorism." He said U.S. "dissatisfaction" was communicated through diplomatic channels.

U.S. commander visits Oman

MUSCAT (AP) — General George B. Crist, head of the U.S. central command, has held talks with Omani Defence Minister Mutaisim Al Busaidi and senior military staff, diplomatic sources reported Saturday. Crist flew in Friday from his Florida headquarters, Centcom, which oversees the U.S. naval task force in and near the Gulf. The sources said the purpose of Crist's three-day visit is to discuss issues of "mutual concern."

Dutch ship to ferry U.S. frigate

BAHRAIN (R) — A Dutch cargo ship has arrived in the Gulf to take the mine-damaged U.S. frigate Samuel B. Roberts to the United States for repairs, U.S. navy officials in the region said Saturday. Shipping sources said the semi-submersible 25,743-tonne Mighty Servant II had moored alongside the frigate in Dubai. The 3,585-tonne frigate hit a mine northeast of Qatar April 15. Ten seamen were injured and Washington blamed Iran for planting the mine. The U.S. navy raided two Iranian oil platforms in retaliation, sparking the biggest naval battle between U.S. and Iranian forces. Six Iranian vessels, including two frigates, were sunk or disabled April 18. Shipping sources said it would take at least three days for the Samuel B. Roberts to be loaded aboard the Dutch ship.

British MPs plan Iran visit

LONDON (Agencies) — Four British members of parliament (MPs) will fly to Iran Sunday to try to ease strained relations between the two countries, the Church of England said Friday. A spokeswoman said the four, from several parties, would be part of a Church of England mission which hoped to find common ground with Iran that might lead to the release of three British hostages held in Lebanon. The hostages, kidnapped in Beirut and believed to be held by pro-Iranian militiamen, are church envoy Terry Waite, British journalist John McCarthy and Belfast teacher Brian Keenan. The spokeswoman said the group would meet senior Iranian officials but gave no details. It did not plan to negotiate a deal for the hostages' release, she added. "It is a fact-finding mission to find ways to improve relations with Iran which could lead to the freeing of Terry Waite and the other British hostages," she said.

Another Palestinian martyred in uprising

(Continued from page 1)

one of throwing rocks and fire-bombs. He warned that in the next stage, they might use explosives and firearms.

Israel has started issuing harsh sentences to some and demolishing or sealing the homes of others. In a 24-hour period Thursday and Friday, Israeli troops destroyed or sealed 18 Palestinian homes, including those of seven suspected fire-bomb throwers.

During one operation, in the West Bank village of Beit Furik, soldiers shot dead a Palestinian after being stoned by a mob of 700 protesters. The soldiers were on their way to demolish the home of Ahmed Hanani, an alleged member of the gang that assassinated Nabhis Mayor Zafer Al Masri in March 1986.

In other developments Saturday, Palestinian students smashed the windows of a police van in the commercial sector of Arab Jerusalem and blocked the main street with stones and garbage wagons.

They also blocked off a nearby street and stoned cars. Stones were also thrown at a police post atop the Damascus Gate.

Police fired rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse the demonstrators and arrested at least 19 protesters.

U.N. chief pursues Gulf peace bid

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Friday he was in weekly contact with Iranian and Iraqi officials and that he was not giving up on trying to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Perez de Cuellar briefed the Security Council on his latest efforts to mediate an end to fighting. He later told reporters he was not discouraged that the 11-month-old Security Council resolution on terminating the conflict had not been implemented.

Most diplomatic observers say the U.N. resolution demanding an immediate ceasefire, troop withdrawal and prisoner exchange is virtually a dead letter.

"I told the Security Council that I am continuing my efforts," Perez de Cuellar told reporters outside the council chamber. "I am not the kind of man who gives up. On the contrary, I intend to pursue my efforts and continue my contacts with the parties."

He said that although there were no new initiatives he continues to speak with Iranian and Iraqi officials once a week. "Resolution 598 is there and it is not for the secretary-general to give up," he said.

Perez de Cuellar said he was not exerting pressure but trying to influence the belligerents "to move to a flexible position which will allow rapid implementation of the resolution." He said the security council still wants the resolution to be implemented as quickly as possible.

Sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Perez de Cuellar delivered to the council a dismal assessment of U.N. efforts towards ending the conflict and asked the council for new instructions on how to proceed.

Libya denies giving weapons to IRA

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Libya denied Saturday that it had smuggled weapons to the Irish Republican Army (IRA) in Ireland.

Britain's Northern Ireland secretary, Tom King, said Friday that the IRA, which is fighting British rule in Northern Ireland, had a deadly stockpile of arms and explosives smuggled in from Libya.

"These allegations are false. This is not the first time that the British authorities reveal such futile information," said the official Libyan news agency JANA, monitored in Beirut.

The Irish problem was not recent and IRA operations were "the symbol of a political problem which has nothing to do with Libya," the agency said.

"Britain should find a solution to the problem instead of blaming others," it added.

British security officials said Libya smuggled high-powered semtex plastic explosive to the IRA and that the outlawed group used it in a bomb Wednesday that killed six British soldiers in a military van outside Belfast, Northern Ireland.

"The timing of stirring such claims and publicising them is not hidden in its purposes and expresses a pre-coordination between the U.S. administration and the British authorities so that the states taking part in the industrial summit find themselves

Arab reportedly negotiates release of German hostage

BEIRUT (Agencies) — An Arab figure is negotiating with pro-Iranian extremists in Beirut to release West German hostage Rudolf Cordes, the Lebanon News Agency reported Saturday.

The privately-owned agency said the unidentified "Arab mediator" has contacted the concerned circles in the past two days in an effort to obtain the release of ... Cordes.

The report quoted unnamed diplomatic sources as saying the contacts were held at "the consulate of a Western country in Beirut."

"The mediator has left and will return soon carrying answers to a number of conditions laid down by the kidnappers," the agency added, without elaboration.

The report, like earlier reports of mediation efforts, could not be verified. The Lebanon News Agency has not been notably active in covering the long-running hostage drama in Lebanon, where 18 foreigners are missing and believed held captive by extremist factions.

Cordes then Beirut manager for West German's Hoechst AG chemical company, was kidnapped in West Beirut Jan. 17 last year.

A pro-Iranian group calling itself Holy Warriors for Freedom claimed July 8 last year that it was holding him along with a West German engineer, Alfred Schmidt. Schmidt was released Sept. 7.

Message to hostage

Beirut's Al Safir Daily published messages to kidnapped British television journalist John McCarthy from his parents and friends hoping for his release.

"Darling John, longing to have you home again. Thinking of you every second. Keep your spirit up. Love, mother and father," one of the messages said.

Another was from McCarthy's girlfriend, Jill Morrell. It said: "Darling John, longing to see you smile again. Love, Jill."

Chris Pearson, a friend of McCarthy's wrote: "Stay cheerful, my friend. I just want you to know that I love and I miss you."

McCarthy, 31, a journalist with the London-based Worldwide Television News, was kidnapped April 17, 1986, as he drove to Beirut airport to catch a plane to London.

No group has claimed McCarthy's abduction and no demands have been made for his release.

The only indication that he is alive came from French hostages Jean-Louis Normandin and Roger Auque who were released Nov. 27.

They said their captors claimed they also were holding McCarthy.

Lebanese Forces 'foil Geagea murder plot'

BEIRUT (R) — The rightist Lebanese Forces militia foiled an attempt to kill its leader, Samir Geagea, and top officials with a carbomb, security sources said Saturday.

It was the second attempt in a month on the life of Geagea, a staunch opponent of Syria's role in Lebanon. He escaped unhurt May 12 when a booby-trapped car blew up as his convoy was passing through the northern village of Mashtat.

The sources said the militia suspected that one of its members, identified as "Karim," was involved in the plot to kill Geagea, 38, and his top officials with a booby-trapped car during a meeting at militia headquarters in Karantina June 7.

They said the plot was masterminded by followers of former Lebanese Forces chief Elie Hobeika, ousted by Geagea in 1986 for signing a Syrian-sponsored peace pact to end Lebanon's civil war.

A militia spokesman confirmed the plot but refused to give details until an investigation was completed.

Court blocks extradition of Arab-American

NEW YORK (AP) — A magistrate Friday denied extradition to Israel of a United States citizen accused of a 1986 bombing that killed a bus driver in occupied Jerusalem.

U.S. magistrate John Caden said there was "probable cause to believe" that the defendant, Mahmoud Abed Atta, 34, committed the bombing "in furtherance of the political objective" of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Therefore, Caden said Atta, who also uses the name Mahmoud Al Abed Ahmad, was protected under the "political offense exception" of United States law and placed him outside the jurisdiction of the extradition treaty between the United States and Israel.

Caden also said he had no governance over the case because Atta had been brought to the United States "in a constitutionally impermissible manner."

Assistant U.S. attorney John Gleason said the government would seek an immediate stay of the order pending a possible appeal or other recourse.

"While this court does not approve the actions taken by Ahmad, nor does it desire to express support for either side in this conflict, the fact remains that the conflict exists and that the political offense exception was formulated to protect the rights of those, whose philosophy may differ from ours, to fight for a way of life they believe in," Caden said in a 72-page written decision.

His order "expresses no opinion as to the legitimacy of the Palestine objectives, the Israeli treatment of the Arabs or the legitimacy of the occupancy of the West Bank," he said.

Atta, who has been described by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as a member of the PLO, has been charged with hurling a firebomb into a bus April 12, 1986 in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. The bus driver was killed and eight passengers were injured. Two other people have been convicted in Israel of participating in the attack.

Atta has been held without bail at the Metropolitan correctional centre in Manhattan since his arrest in May 1987 during a flight from Venezuela to Kennedy international airport.

Atta, who was born in Ramallah and became an American citizen in 1982, was held on an extradition warrant from Israel.

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Qatar's banks look to retail market

DOHA (R) — Qatar's banks, struggling to cope with a Gulf recession and a stagnant economy, have launched a drive into the emirate's retail market in what could lead to a head-on clash with foreign banks.

Bankers said bad debts and sluggish government spending had caused a sharp drop in new lending, prompting banks to expand their services to small clients to try to generate new revenue.

"As corporate lending is no more viable, some local banks are following the foreign banks in a move into retail banking," said one banker.

The nine local banks turned in mixed results last year. The biggest, Qatar National Bank (QNB), doubled its net profits while the second largest, Doha Bank, registered a steep decline. Bankers said Qatar's five foreign banks, reluctant to expand lending because borrowers had for some time been unable to repay loans and earnings were diverted into provisions for bad debts, might see profits squeezed by increased competition in the lucrative retail market.

Teller machines

The push by local banks into the retail market has led to a scramble to install automated teller machines, offer credit cards and extend small-scale consumer

policies of local banks could increase pressure further.

Hostile environment

"The environment is becoming more hostile for foreign banks... it makes a lot of sense to move into a partnership with local (banking) group," said one foreign banker.

One strong reason is the tax burden imposed on foreign banks while local banks still enjoy a tax holiday. Citibank pulled out of Qatar last year and sold its operation to locally-based Al Ahli

Bank of Qatar, launched in 1984. Al Ahli's fast expanding operation saw net profits double last year to 10.52 million riyals (\$2.9 million) from 5.21 million riyals (\$1.4 million) in 1986.

With its late start-up, bankers said Al Ahli managed to avoid some of the problem loans which hit earnings of other banks.

Some banks had pinned hopes for an upturn on Qatar's plans to tap gas reserves in its North Field, where drilling in a \$1.5 billion first phase is due to begin in mid-August.

But a senior adviser to a Qatari

bank said most of the gas project would go to foreign contractors and any spin-off business would be small and short-lived.

In the meantime, lending has not yet started to pick up and economic activity remains at a low ebb. Qatar Monetary Agency figures show loans and advances rose by just 3.3 per cent to 1.59 billion riyals (\$437 million) at the end of 1987.

"Qatari banks, still awash in deposits, are unable to find secure projects in which to place their money," said another banker.

Housing starts in U.S. drop sharply in May

WASHINGTON (R) — The building of new houses in the United States dropped sharply in May as the pace of construction of new single-family homes sank to its lowest level in more than three years, the Commerce Department said Friday.

The sharp decline came as a surprise to economists, who speculated that it was the result of a combined impact of rising home prices, higher mortgage rates and a belief among builders that interest rates would continue rising.

Groundbreaking for new home construction fell 12.2 per cent in May to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.38 million units, following a modest 3.1 per cent gain in April, the Commerce Department said.

The decline, the largest drop since December, snapped a string of three consecutive monthly increases and left starts 13.4 per

cent below their May 1987 rate.

The biggest drop came in multiple-unit buildings, where starts fell 18.9 per cent in May to an annual rate of 396,000.

Economists had expected a decline in multiple-unit starts, especially after April's astonishing 36.7 per cent rise. The market has been chronically weak because rental unit vacancy rates nationwide are at a 20-year high and many tax benefits of investing in such units have been eliminated, they said.

What puzzled economists was that starts on single-family home construction fell 9.2 per cent to an annual rate of 988,000 units, the lowest level since January 1985, following another significant drop in April of 7.2 per cent.

"It's puzzling as well as discouraging to see this kind of a figure," said economist Mark Obrinsky of the U.S. League of

Savings Institutions

"What that suggests is that this wasn't just a fluke — that this is a market that's in a decline," said Martin Regalia, chief economist at National Council of Savings Institutions.

"The single-family housing market, I think, is going to be on the ebb for the rest of the year," Regalia said.

Most economists had predicted there would be between 1.45 million and 1.55 million starts on housing construction this year, compared with last year's 1.62 million, but some of the more optimistic ones now say they may lower their forecasts.

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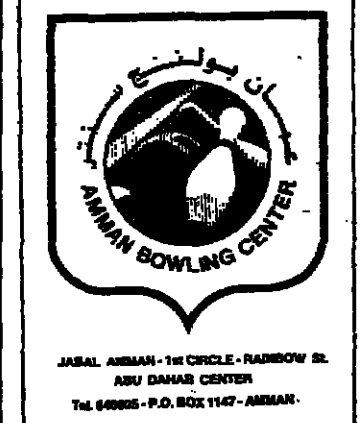
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AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for June 18, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	212530	JD 178177	275
Top three companies:			
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing, and Publishing	85900	JD 48584	81
Arab Bank Ltd.	180	JD 20586	5
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	8550	JD 14491	15
Parallel market:	16350	JD 7350	—
Development bonds:	934	JD 10229	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarizes trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, June 11, '88 and ending Wednesday June 15, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars)

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	650	979	1.500	1.510	1.000
Petra Bank	4000	7700	1.940	1.920	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	2729	4783	1.750	1.770	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	3061	4496	1.460	1.510	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	5837	7191	1.200	1.230	1.000
Housing Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	12000	25200	2.100	2.100	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	38	1102	30.000	29.000	5.000
Bank of Jordan	384	5894	15.400	15.500	5.000
Arab Bank	520	59408	114.250	114.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	7010	18044	2.540	2.580	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	8200	7819	0.900	0.950	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	6125	10688	2.000	1.990	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	34712	18789	0.550	0.550	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	10000	18032	1.800	1.800	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	31307	22649	0.720	0.730	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	34034	25621	0.760	0.760	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	65	1024	15.950	15.750	2.000
Al Mafrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	25112	25112	1.050	1.000	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	1500	1650	1.100	1.100	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	100	86	0.850	0.860	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Al-Izzah Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Abhiya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Insurance	10397	9688	0.950	0.950	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	76	97	1.270	1.270	1.000
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	6022	3118	0.540	0.530	1.000
Parco for Housing and Investment	118230	52921	0.440	0.450	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	200	200	0.410	0.400	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	843	727	0.290	0.300	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	31076	5601	0.680	0.680	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero	14240	4384	0.790	0.780	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	16650	3494	0.190	0.210	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	5671	8562	1.500	1.510	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	50	47	0.960	0.930	1.000
Arab International Hotels	150	345	2.500	2.300	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	5250	4505	0.850	0.860	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	925	3208	3.400	3.490	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	2000	4300	2.000	2.150	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	344719	171274	0.470	0.540	1.000
Jordan Dairy	4530	4653	1.030	1.010	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	19533	39246	1.970	2.030	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	5950	71521	1.280	1.280	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	526	1241	2.360	2.360	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intal)	13242	16746	1.280	1.280	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	483	1908	4.000	3.950	1.000
Aladdin Industries	24960	31000	1.230	1.240	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	60900	102416	1.670	1.680	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	1050	4745	4.500	4.500	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	940	1027	1.090	1.090	1.000
Chemical Industries	1050	1637	1.540	1.580	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	7336	4690	0.640	0.630	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	2591	3840	1.500	1.490	1.000
National Steel Industries	22610	60796	2.700	2.680	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	6150	9526	1.580	1.540	5.000
General Mining	100	130	1.300	1.300	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	5122	37584	7.320	7.330	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	57500	13228	0.240	0.230	1.000
National Industries	840	319	0.400	0.380	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Printing Industries (JPICO)	8050	8997	1.110	1.130	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	420	323	0.770	0.770	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	631	738	1.160	1.180	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	1216	3732	3.090	3.150	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	38150	23302	0.620	0.610	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Wooden Industries	406	812	2.000	2.000	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	96	389	4.000	4.050	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	198	2792	14.000	14.100	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	34327	35132	0.980	1.030	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	19830	15086	0.770	0.760	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	24442	39165	2.690	2.690	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	55320	64301	1.140	1.190	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	2550	2305	0.980	0.990	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Grand total	1,216,879	1,161,985			

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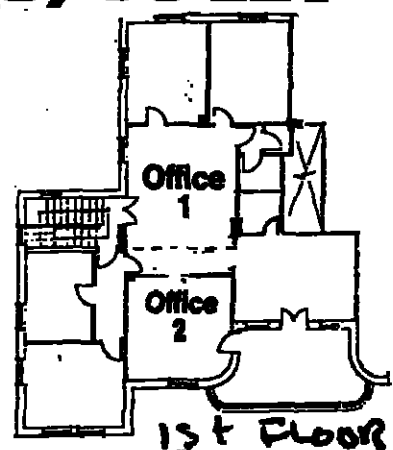
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Committee dismisses Rothmans complaint Jordan rally winners receive prizes

AMMAN (J.T.) — Winners and runners-up in the Rothmans Jordan International Rally were awarded their respective trophies and awards at a ceremony held at the Amman Marriott Hotel Saturday.

The ceremony was initially scheduled for Friday evening, but was postponed when a last minute unexpected turn of events took place.

Shortly after the end of the rally Friday, the Rothmans rally team lodged a complaint protesting the eligibility of Mohammad Bin Sulayem, the winner of the three-day international rally.

The complaint over a gearbox fitted to Bin Sulayem's Toyota Celica GT, said the gearbox was "homologated with ancillary equipment which is not fitted on the vehicle."

According to the text of the complaint, "an alternate should be mounted to the right hand rear of the gearbox in addition to the standard alternate at left hand front of the engine," rally spokesman Samir Dajani told the Jordan Times.

The committee dismissed the complaint, without scrutinizing Sulayem's car, with most of the discussion centered on the word "additional" in the text of the complaint, according to Dajani. The Rothmans team did not appeal within the one-hour period given to contest the ruling.

Hajri said that along with three other cars, Bin Sulayem's car was tested at the end of the rally and was found to have non standard parts.

"Jordanian officials felt something fishy, and the Rothmans technical team checked (Bin Sulayem's) car and found that the gear box had non-Toyota parts in it," Hajri told the Jordan Times Friday evening.

"This is not fair. We are competing with Toyota, not with any other manufacturer," Hajri said.

Bin Sulayem on the other hand, denied all accusations and challenged that his car is available for anyone to test at any time.

"Our car is 100 per cent sound," Bin Sulayem told the Jordan Times. "The Rothmans team wanted to win this rally by hook or by crook because it is their rally and they had two cars participating," he said.

Bin Sulayem expressed disappointment because "the spirit of the Jordan rally was disturbed," after the incident.

Rothman's ace driver Saeed Hajri, who placed second in the international rally, checked out from his hotel room Saturday morning. His whereabouts then were not known, but sources said Hajri may have spent the day at the Dead Sea, for a photo session with his Audi Quattro A2. The Qatari driver also failed to show up at the prize-giving ceremony and Royal Automobile of Jordan General Manager Derek Ledger said Hajri had left the country to prepare for another rally.

"The Rothmans team submitted a legal protest within the legal

time and within their rights," rally steward Abdullah Al Khalil told the Jordan Times. "We (the three stewards) deliberated the matter for five hours and decided that the protest was unfounded," he said.

Christos Kyriakides, who is also on the stewards committee, said that after both the Toyota and Rothmans teams gave their points of view to the committee, the chief scrutineer was called in to "elaborate on the subject."

Dajani said that the gear box in Bin Sulayem's Toyota was found to be "one hundred per cent according to FISA regulations." He added that since that was the case, the provisional results published by the end of the rally were confirmed as final.

During Saturday's ceremony, which was attended by a few hundred auto sports fans, the first prize was given to United Arab Emirates' Bin Sulayem, the second to Hajri who drove an Audi Quattro A2, while, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, who drove an Opel Manta 400, was awarded the third prize.

Following those three, Sweden's Ola Stromberg, Jordan's Issa Halabi, Lebanon's Maurice Sahnouni, Jordan's Mohammad Sbitan, Saudi Arabia's Mohammad Al Malky, were given awards for being among the first eight overall finishers respectively.

Stromberg was also awarded a prize for being first in the group A cars, while Bin Sulayem was given a prize for being first in group B cars. Kuwait's Soureijan was awarded a prize for being the first in the group S cars.

Saudi Arabia's Malky was awarded a prize for being first among the class 5 cars, Stromberg for class 8 cars, Bin Sulayem for class 12 cars, Soureijan for class 13 cars, and Zayed for class 14 cars.

Commemorative medallions were also given to the crew of each of the 10 cars that finished the rally.

The highest placed foreign entries from each country were also given awards. Those included Bin Sulayem (UAE), Hajri (Qatar), Stromberg for Sweden, Sahnouni for Lebanon, Malky for Saudi Arabia, and Soureijan for Kuwait.

The Lisa Company presented an award for the best European finisher Ola Stromberg while Jean D'Eve watches through their agents in Amman Talal Malhas and Company were given for the best Jordanian driver, Prince Abdullah.

Prince Abdullah donated the cash prize (JD 150) he won for third place to Jordan's Aymad Zayed, for having best sports spirit in the rally.

Navratilova thrashes Zvereva

EASTBOURNE, England (R) — Martina Navratilova put Natalia Zvereva firmly in her place with an imperious display of power tennis in the final of the Eastbourne Grasscourt Championship Saturday.

Beaten in straight sets by the 17-year-old Soviet at the French Open in Paris three weeks ago, Navratilova won 6-2, 6-2 to exact a modicum of revenge and emphasise her readiness to defend the Wimbledon title next week.

The 31-year-old Prague-born American has now won this event seven times and finished runner-up twice — following up all eight previous appearances in the Eastbourne final by winning Wimbledon a fortnight later.

Zvereva beat the world number two 6-3, 7-6 on clay in Paris but found her a totally different proposition on the grasscourt she considers her own back garden.

Navratilova, who will be bidding for a record ninth women's singles title when the 102nd championships begin Monday, said: "It was nice to get back at Natalia, and obviously it is an ideal boost to my confidence before Wimbledon."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Belgrade is to bid for 1996 Olympics

BELGRADE (R) — Belgrade is to bid for the 1996 Olympics, the official Tanjug news agency said Saturday. The Yugoslav capital failed in its attempt to land the 1992 games — they were awarded to Barcelona — but Tanjug said the Yugoslav Olympic Committee would try again, submitting an official application for the 1996 games. Athens is the sentimental favourite to stage the centenary games — the modern Olympic era began there in 1896 — but other cities also in contention include Melbourne, Toronto, Manchester and Atlanta. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is due to make a decision in September 1990.

Italian clubs sign four Brazilian stars

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Italian clubs signed four leading Brazilian soccer players Friday for a total of \$5.7 million, Brazilian officials said. The officials said Torino had paid \$4.2 million for Sao Paulo's Muller and Silas while Bologna had bought Guarani's Evair and Ricardo Roberto for \$1.5 million.

Baseball Standings

NEW YORK (AP) — Major league standings after Friday's games:

National League East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	41	23	.641	—
Pittsburgh	36	29	.554	5½
Chicago	33	31	.516	8
St. Louis	33	32	.508	8½
Montreal	31	33	.484	10
Philadelphia	29	34	.460	11½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	34	29	.540	—
Houston	34	31	.523	1
San Francisco	32	33	.491	3
Cincinnati	31	34	.477	4
San Diego	29	37	.439	6½
Atlanta	23	40	.365	11

American League East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	39	24	.619	—
Detroit	39	25	.609	1½
Cleveland	38	27	.585	2
Milwaukee	35	31	.530	5½
Boston	30	32	.484	8½
Toronto	32	35	.478	9
Baltimore	18	47	.277	22

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	41	24	.631	—
Minnesota	35	28	.556	5
Kansas City	36	30	.545	5½
Texas	31	34	.477	10
Chicago	28	36	.438	12½
California	26	40	.394	15½
Seattle	25	41	.388	16

Van Rensburg outclasses McEnroe

WEST KIRBY, England (AP) — John McEnroe's warm-up for Wimbledon ended a round earlier than the American had hoped Friday, with a 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 loss to South African Christo van Rensburg in the semifinals of the Writal International Grass-court Tournament.

Van Rensburg, ranked 36th in the world, will meet American David Pate for the title Saturday. Pate beat another American, Leif Shiras, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 in a semifinal in which the umpire was replaced after complaints from both players.

McEnroe, playing on British grass courts for the first time since losing in the Wimbledon quarterfinals three years ago, said he was pleased with his progress and vowed to do better once the Grand Slam tournament starts Monday.

After the match, McEnroe pledged that Wimbledon — where he is seeded eighth — would be different and said he was happy with his preparation. "I thought things were coming around," the three-time Wimbledon champion said. "I'll just have to take the next couple of days and work on my serve and iron out the kinks."

"Hopefully, in the same situation next week, I'll be able to push myself higher. I play better with the big crowd and the Wimbledon atmosphere gets you fired up."

"Now I can concentrate on that and spend a couple of days preparing. The mental preparation is as important as the physical. I feel I am hitting the ball well and am really looking forward to it."

Soviets, Dutch reach European semifinals

FRANKFURT, West Germany (Agencies) — The Soviet Union and The Netherlands Saturday advanced to the semifinals of the European Soccer Championships.

The Soviet Union beat England 3-1 (2-1) in Frankfurt, while The Netherlands edged Ireland 1-0 (1-1) in Gelsenkirchen.

The Netherlands will play host West Germany in Hamburg Tuesday, while the Soviet Union will face Italy in the other semifinal in Stuttgart Wednesday.

On a hot afternoon in the Waldstadion, the impressive Soviet side took control after only two minutes through midfielder Sergei Aleinikov, conceded an unexpected equalizer by Tony Adams, but swept to an easy victory with further goals from Alexei Mikhailichenko and substitute Viktor Pasulko.

England, beaten by Ireland, The Netherlands and the Soviet Union, will fly home Sunday with the abuse of their own fans ringing in their ears following another abject performance.

Although they applied aerial pressure on Soviet goalkeeper Rinat Dasayev — playing with his right knee heavily strapped — in the second half, England were rarely able to penetrate the disciplined Russian defence.

Both teams were much-changed from their previous matches, England bringing in goalkeeper Chris Woods, defender Dave Watson and midfielder Steve McMahon for their first appearances of the tournament. The Soviet Union recalled Vla-

dimir Bessonov after injury and Gennady Litovchenko after a one-match suspension.

The Irish, who needed just a draw to deny the Dutch, held out bravely until the 82nd minute when Kieft Rose on the left in the penalty area and headed home.

The star-studded Dutch, requiring a win to qualify after losing 1-0 to the Soviet Union in their opening match, had until then looked likely to succumb to the rank outsiders after all their efforts had been thwarted.

Ireland, appearing in their first major championship finals, had gone 12 matches without defeat but the 13th proved beyond them as the Dutch claimed second place in group two and now face West Germany in Tuesday's first semifinal.

The Dutch pressed virtually throughout and were thwarted by the woodwork in the 52nd minute when Rudi Voller, always at the heart of his side's attack, passed inside to Jan Wouters on the right and the midfielder unleashed a powerful shot against the crossbar.

Both goals were created by the hardworking Gianluca Vialli, crossing from the left for Altobelli to score in the 67th minute and from the right to set up De Agostini two minutes from time.

Denmark, already eliminated from the championship following defeats against West Germany and Spain, put up a brave fight in their final group one match.

But the unburied Italians, who could have lost and still reached the last four, were a class above their tired and injury-hit opponents and it was only a matter of time before a goal came to break the deadlock.

Italy, with two wins and a draw, finished second on goal difference behind West Germany in the final group one standings.

They now play the winners of group two in the semifinals in Stuttgart next Wednesday.

Rudi Voller repaid his debt to Franz Beckenbauer Friday, scoring two goals against Spain to

Italy beats Denmark

Substitutes Alessandro Altobelli, scoring with his first touch of the ball, and Luigi de Agostini gave Italy a 2-0 win over Denmark Friday and a place in the semifinals of the championship.

Both goals were created by the hardworking Gianluca Vialli, crossing from the left for Altobelli to score in the 67th minute and from the right to set up De Agostini two minutes from time.

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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DRAWING TRUMPS THE HARD WAY

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ A Q 7 4
♥ K 5
♦ K J 6 3
♣ A K 2

WEST
♠ 10 9 8 6 2
♥ 8 6 4 3
♦ A
♣ Q 9 3

EAST
♠ Void
♥ A Q J 10 9 7
♦ 10 9 7 5 4
♣ 7 6

SOUTH
♠ K J 5 3
♥ Q 8 2
♦ Q 8 2
♣ J 10 8 5 4

The bidding:
East South West North
4♥ Pass Pass Dbl
Pass 4♣ Pass Pass
Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♠
Finding a disastrous trump break can be unpleasant. But instead of moping about your fate, you would do better to look for a way of over-coming it.

East's four-heart preempt was based on the vulnerability and his distribution. North's takeout double was routine, and he had no interest in moving further when South simply bid four spades, since his king of hearts was a doubtful asset. West's decision to defend, even with

five trumps, is debatable.

West led a heart and declarer ruffed the second round. When the king of trumps revealed the bad break, declarer realized he would have to bring in the club suit without loss—besides the heart trick he had already lost, he was faced with an unavoidable loser in both trumps and diamonds. So at trick three declarer led the jack of clubs. East covered with the queen and dummy's king won.

The king of diamonds lost to West's ace and a trump was returned, but declarer was in control. He won the jack in hand and started to run clubs. West ruffed the fourth round and declarer took care to discard a diamond from the table rather than overruff. Declarer ruffed the heart return in hand and led his last club. If West ruffed, declarer would overruff in dummy, draw the last trump and score a high diamond for the contract; if West did not ruff, dummy's last diamond would be discarded and the high trumps would take the last tricks.

It might seem that West can beat the contract by refusing to cover the jack of clubs. But declarer can get back to the same position as above by cashing his high clubs before he touches the diamond suit.

What the crooks said as the cops closed in.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

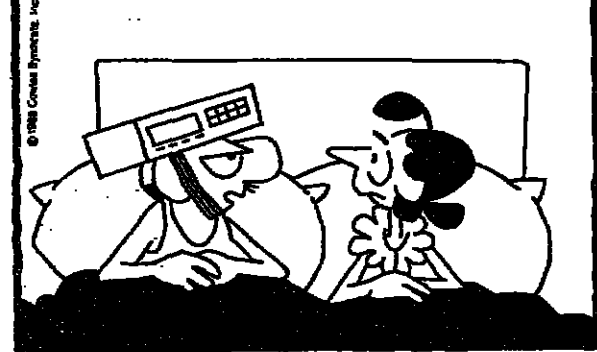
Answer here: THE

Jumbles: DITTO ANNUL THRUSH ENTAIL
Answer: "Tact" is what some people have while others do this—TELL THE TRUTH!

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

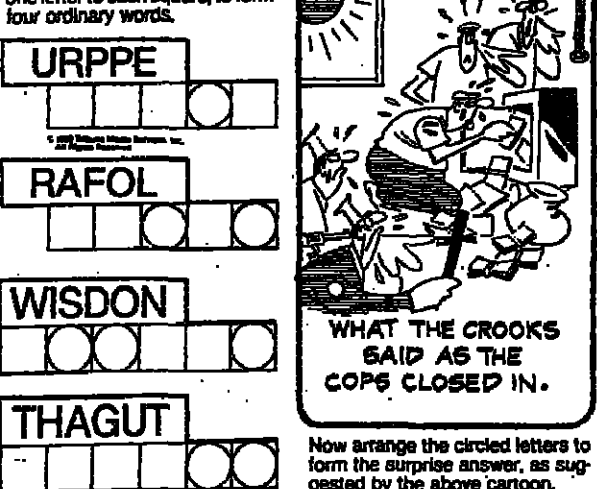
HARRIS



"I'm hoping I can get the VCR to tape my best dreams so I can watch them again!"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

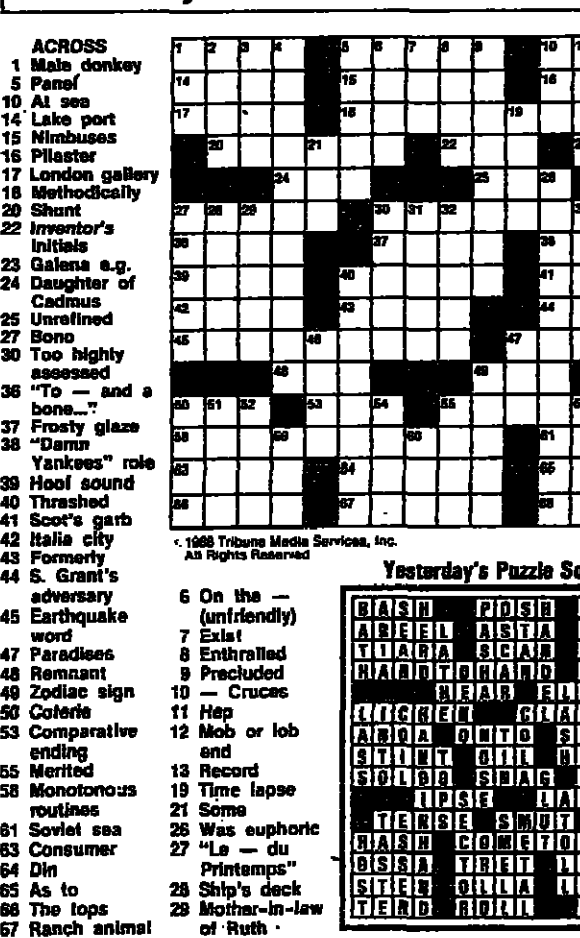


Answer here: THE

Jumbles: DITTO ANNUL THRUSH ENTAIL
Answer: "Tact" is what some people have while others do this—TELL THE TRUTH!

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword by Bernard Moren



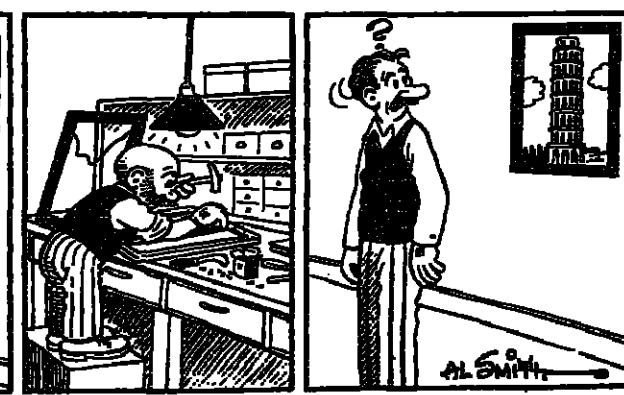
ACROSS
1 Male donkey
5 Panel
10 At sea
14 Lake port
15 Nimbuses
16 Plaster
17 London gallery
18 Methodically
20 Shunt
22 Inventor's initials
23 Galena a.p.
24 Daughter of Cadmus
25 Unfurling
27 Bono
30 Too highly assessed
36 "To — and a bone..."
37 Frosty glaze
38 "Damn" and "Yankies" role
39 Hoof sound
40 Thrashed
41 Scott's garb
42 Italia city
43 Formerly
44 S. Grant's adversary
45 Earthquake word
47 Parades
48 Remnant
49 Zodiac sign
50 Coterie
53 Comparative ending
55 Merited
58 Monotonous routines
61 Soviet sea
63 Consumer
64 Din
65 As to
66 The tops
67 Ranch animal
68 Tear

DOWN
1 Intense black
2 Horse
3 Urban area
4 Holding one's own
5 Opera voice
6 On the — (unfriendly) word
7 Exalt
8 Entrailed
9 Precluded
10 — Cruces
11 Hap
12 Mob or job
13 Record
19 Time lapse
21 Some
26 Was euphoric
27 "Le — du Printemps"
28 Ship's deck
29 Mother-in-law of Ruth
30 Praying figure
31 Coat
32 Arab prince
33 Sheep cloth
34 Actress
35 Burstin
36 Appointments
37 art
38 Lombardi
39 Arab prince
40 Modern
41 Actress
42 Ticket part
43 Gaelic
44 Sentences
46 Oida, city
47 Always to
48 Otherwise
49 Modern
50 Ticket part
51 Gaelic
52 Golf gadgets
54 Uprising
55 Otherwise
56 Shore bird
57 Mild oath
59 Lickstetter
60 Flo
62 Was first

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Gandhi foe wins major by-elections

ALLAHABAD, India (R) — India's former defence minister placed himself to unite the country's fragmented opposition against his old boss, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, with a crushing by-election win Saturday.

Election officials said Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who based his campaign on alleged corruption in Gandhi's government, had a lead of more than 90,000 votes over Gandhi nominee Sunil Shastri, son of former premier Lal Bahadur Shastri, with only 50,000 ballots left to count.

"This could be a watershed in

Indian politics," said one Western diplomat in New Delhi.

Gandhi, during a trip to the southwestern state of Karnataka, shrugged off the win, the Press Trust of India news agency said.

But Singh, leading Shastri by 163,058 votes to 71,868 near the end of a marathon count that started Friday, said his win was

one of great significance.

"This election proves that united action against Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party is possible," Singh said.

"We may not have a merger, but the opposition parties can certainly come together for a general election," he added.

Congress was defending all seven parliamentary seats at stake in Thursday's by-elections. It lost at least two other seats where a majority of opposition parties backed one candidate, as they did in Allahabad.

The northern city is Gandhi's ancestral home and a constituency once held by his grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first leader after gaining independence from Britain in 1947. Congress held one seat where the opposition could not agree on a candidate. Counting was held up by rigging charges in another and counting was still under way in the rest.

Singh, 56, quit Gandhi's cabinet last year charging that Congress officials had taken bribes from Swedish and West German firms which won big defence contracts. The government denied the allegations.

Presenting himself as the "Mr. Clean" of Indian politics, he drew national attention in a campaign across the dusty constituency of Allahabad from the back of a motorcycle, dressed in the simple white cotton clothes of the region.

"Rajiv Gandhi has been judged in this election in the people's court and has been found guilty of corruption," Singh said as his victory became inevitable.

One opposition leader, Haryana State Chief Minister Devi Lal, has said Singh should have a combined opposition front in general elections which must be held by the end of 1989.

Savimbi declares support for Angolan peace talks

JAMBA, Angola (R) — Rebel leader Jonas Savimbi declared his support Friday for current four-party talks on ending Angola's civil war but said only meetings between his National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) guerrillas and the Luanda government could bring peace.

Savimbi spoke at his sprawling bush headquarters at Jamba in southeastern Angola, shortly before he was due to fly to Washington for talks with U.S. government officials and members of Congress.

The negotiations between Cuba, South Africa, the Marxist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), Angolan government and the United States which began in London last month were encouraging, although UNITA was not represented, Savimbi said.

But he added: "Without direct talks between UNITA and the MPLA there can be no peace in our country."

The pro-Western UNITA, now backed by South African forces and U.S. weapons, has fought a 13-year war against the MPLA, which is supported by Cuba and the Soviet Union. UNITA says it wants to participate in a government of national unity.

South Africa links its withdrawal from Namibia, the vast territory south of Angola which Pretoria rules in defiance of the United Nations, with a Cuban military pullout from Angola.

Savimbi told a news conference that Cuba would comply with Soviet views, adding:

"This is the first time the Russians are implying they are accepting there is a linkage between the total withdrawal of troops from Angola and the independence of Namibia."

In Washington Savimbi is due to meet U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker, the main U.S. negotiator on Angola, and to confer with congressmen.

U.N. appeals for 'Sharpeville six'

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council issued a new call Friday for South Africa to commute the death sentences on the "Sharpeville six," five men and a woman condemned to hang for complicity in the 1964 mob killing of a black township official.

The resolution was adopted unanimously and without debate at a meeting that lasted only a few

minutes.

The council adopted a similar resolution March 16.

Zambia requested the latest meeting after the Pretoria supreme court Monday rejected an application to reopen the case. It extended a stay of execution until July 19.

Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the Foreign Minis-

ters of Australia, New Zealand, Denmark, Sweden, Iceland, Finland and Norway appealed this week to South African President P.W. Botha to grant clemency.

The council resolution "calls once again upon the South African authorities to stay execution and commute the death sentences imposed on the Sharpeville six."

U.N. debt crisis could force closure

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar met Friday with United Nations (U.N.) delegates about the nearly \$700 million member countries owe the United Nations, a debt that officials say could close the organisation.

The secretary-general held talks with Eastern European delegates Friday. He met with Western European representatives Wednesday and held separate discussions Thursday with Asian countries and Latin American and Caribbean states. He is

expected to meet with African nations next week and then announce the results of his consultations.

Perez de Cuellar and U.N. staff officials have said the United Nations could become insolvent by late October unless new funds are found.

The United States is responsible for the majority of the debt, owing \$467 million of the \$691 million outstanding.

In contrast, the Soviet Union has launched a campaign over the past year to increase its influence

and standing at the United Nations, paying off about \$60 million to the regular budget and beginning to repay about \$200 million it owed for past peacekeeping operations, which come under a separate budget.

Most of the U.S. funds have been withheld in the last few years because of congressional disagreements with U.N. policies: frustrations over allegations of inefficiency at the United Nations; and in an attempt to influence Soviet personnel policy at the world body.



West German policemen arrest soccer hooligans

Soccer violence rages in W. Germany

FRANKFURT (AP) — Rival West German rowdies brawled in Munich Friday, while fights between English and German fans erupted for a second night in Frankfurt.

English fans, on a self-proclaimed "invasion of Germany 1988," have descended on Frankfurt for Saturday's match against the Soviet Union in the two-week, West German-hosted European soccer championships.

Police said Friday the body of a 29-year-old Irish soccer fan was found floating in the Main river running through Frankfurt.

Police said he apparently drowned while intoxicated. The

body was discovered Thursday night.

Soccer-related violence broke out in Munich Friday, and police put the blame on rival gangs of West German thugs.

Munich police arrested 59 rowdies — most of them West Germans — for street brawling or for tearing up compartments on two trains bringing fans to the Bavarian capital for the Friday night West Germany-Spain soccer match.

One of those arrested was from England, while most of the others were West Germans, police said. Police in Munich also said 61

others including West German "Skinheads" had been rounded up without being charged to prevent them from causing trouble near the city's train station.

Small groups of English, West German and Italian rowdies got into isolated scuffles near Frankfurt's main train station Friday night, police said. About 200 beer-drinking English fans had been milling about in the area since Friday afternoon.

Before dawn Friday, English troublemakers tore up several Frankfurt bars and attacked West Germans.

Chinese Muslims warned not to oppose family planning

PEKING (R) — Religious leaders in China's biggest Muslim region have been warned not to oppose new birth control rules imposed on ethnic minorities there for the first time, the official New China News Agency said Saturday.

Under the regulations, which go into force July 1, minority couples in urban areas of Xinjiang, western China, will be permitted only two children, while rural families will be limited to three, or four in exceptional cases.

The news agency quoted regional Chairman Tomur Dawamat as saying religious leaders must support the new rules.

"At least, they should not place obstacles in the way of the work," Dawamat said.

Minority races account for only 60 million of China's population of 1.085 billion and have previously been exempted from the tough one-child-per-family policy applied to majority Han Chinese.

In Xinjiang, which has a population of only 14 million, families of 10 children are common among Muslim minorities. The agency quoted Dawamat as saying a population boom threatened to overload social services and transport and wreck economic development. The adoption of family planning "marked social progress," he said.

Xinjiang's ethnic population, made up mostly of Uygur central Asians, is now 8.63 million, double the figure at the time of the 1949 Communist takeover, earlier reports said.

The remainder of the population are Han settlers from eastern China, who hold most leading posts in Xinjiang's ruling Communist Party bodies.

Defiance of birth control rules threatens China's population policy in many rural areas. United Nations officials said in May that if current trends continued, Peking's goal of keeping the population to 1.2 billion in the year 2000 would be exceeded by 87 million people.

Afghan rebel chief wants war damages

PESHAWAR (R) — Fiery Afghan rebel Commander Gulbuddin Hekmatyar says he would use Soviet prisoners of war to pressurize Moscow for war damages once the guerrillas overrun Kabul.

He also said in an interview in this north-western Pakistani city Friday he would press for separate elections for a head of state after an elected guerrilla government was installed in Afghanistan.

The head of the Hezb-I-Islami Party is regarded by political observers as one of the most powerful leaders in the seven-party guerrilla alliance battling Soviet troops and the Marxist government in Kabul.

"We are keeping the prisoners to pressurize Moscow to accept our conditions for war damages and the return of criminals such as (Afghan president) Najibullah," said Hekmatyar, who estimated that about 1,000 Marxist Afghans would flee to the Soviet Union.

"We will find ways to convince the Russians to pay. There are many ways to do so," said Hekmatyar, 40, who handed over the rotating three-month chairmanship of the alliance last Wednesday to moderate Afghan leader Syed Ahmad Gailani.

Asked how much damages the guerrillas wanted from Moscow, he said: "This will be decided after the complete withdrawal of Russian troops by an international commission."

Rebel leader says the 8½-year-old war has killed 1.3 million Afghans, forced five million to flee as refugees and destroyed 60 per cent of Afghanistan's houses and 70 per cent of its farm land. Military officials in Moscow listed 311 servicemen as missing in action when the Soviet Union began withdrawing its troops last month.

Moscow has asked Red Cross organisations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran and the United States to help find the soldiers. Soviet officials said about a third of those missing have died and the rest are being held in Afghan rebel camps in Pakistan.

Princess Diana's smile earns her a fellowship

LONDON (AP) — Princess Diana, flashing her famous smile, accepted an honorary fellowship in dental surgery Friday from the Royal College of Surgeons. Clad in the faculty's red-trimmed academic gown and mortar board, the princess quipped: "This is one of the first times that I have not been asked to unveil a plaque." An official for the Royal College of Surgeons, a research and training association, said: "The princess shows a shining example with her beautiful teeth."

Corpse thieves arrested

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Police have arrested 18 people in the last two months on charges of stealing and selling corpses from graves in Mamasa, 1,800 kilometres northeast of Jakarta, a report said Friday. The Kompas Daily newspaper said unidentified buyers paid the 18 suspects to steal human remains, which are believed by residents of the area to possess magic powers. "The thieves chose corpses belonging to people buried tens, even hundreds of years ago," the newspaper quoted a police officer as saying. Older remains brought higher prices, especially if they were still intact, the newspaper said. Prices ranged up to \$3,100 per set.

Passports in exchange for sex

LONDON (R) — Arab women fraudulently obtained Irish passports from an official at the Irish embassy in exchange for sex, the London high court heard Friday. The Home Office alleged that one such passport was obtained by a Moroccan woman, Ghita M'Rabet Machkour, 28, who was refused permission to reenter Britain last month by an immigration officer at London's Heathrow airport. The judge, Justice Schiemann, granted her leave for a judicial review of the immigration officer's refusal. Machkour, currently held in a detention centre, says she obtained the passport by virtue of her marriage in May 1986 to an Irish national living in London. Immigration authorities have been unable to trace the man. George Pulman, lawyer for the Home Office, said Machkour's passport was one of a series believed to have been obtained fraudulently in exchange for sexual favours by Arab women who wished to live in Britain.

Jane Fonda apologises to Vietnam veterans

NEW YORK (R) — Actress Jane Fonda will apologise in a television interview to be shown Friday for any hurt she caused American soldiers by her anti-Vietnam war stance. In particular, she apologises for visiting Hanoi in 1972 and attacking U.S. conduct of the war from the enemy's capital. The woman once labelled "Hanoi Jane" for her opposition to the war says she regretted making many controversial statements, including describing herself as "a revolutionary woman." In an interview on the ABC Television network, Fonda says she made those statements because, "I didn't want to be thought of as some starlet." She adds: "I was trying to help end the killing, end the war. But there were times I was thoughtless and careless about it." The actress has been the object of demonstrations by Veterans groups in the state of Connecticut who oppose her making a film there because of her role in the Vietnam War.

Sailors lived on rainwater, sharks for five months

HONOLULU (R) — Five Costa Rican fishermen, who spent five months drifting in the Pacific, said Friday they lived on sharks and turtles and licked rainwater from tin cans. "We never lost hope," Gerardo Obando said when they arrived in Honolulu Friday on board the Japanese tuna vessel Kinei Maru 128. "We prayed and we trusted and we put our faith in God." Obando, 33, captain of the fishing boat Cairi III, and his crew of four left Costa Rica on January 19. They ran into a heavy storm five days later and their boat ran out of fuel and lost its radio. They ran out of food on January 27 as their vessel drifted in the Pacific. Obando said they were found by the Japanese vessel Wednesday drifting 1120 kilometres southeast of Honolulu.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Cyanide woman sentenced to 90 years

SEATTLE (AP) — A woman convicted in a death-by-product tampering trial was sentenced to 90 years in prison Friday for killing her husband and a stranger with capsules laced with cyanide. U.S. District Judge William Dwyer recommended that Stella Nickell, 44, not be eligible for parole for a minimum of 30 years, saying, "the jury has found the defendant guilty of appalling crimes." Dwyer took note of the fact that the poisoned pain relief capsules had been left on store shelves and could easily have fallen into the hands of innocent victims. Nickell received 90-year terms each for two counts of product tampering that resulted in the deaths of her husband, Bruce Nickell, and Susan Katherine Snow. She faced possible life terms on those two counts. Prosecutors alleged Nickell killed her husband because she was tired of him and wanted to collect \$176,000 in life insurance. They said Snow, who had no connection with the couple, was an innocent victim of a plot to make Nickell's death appear to be the work of a random killer.

Nunn not interested in vice presidency

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senator Sam Nunn said Friday he told Michael Dukakis' campaign chairman that he was not interested in the Democratic Party's vice-presidential nomination. Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, did not rule out accepting such an offer, saying in an interview it would be "very presumptuous" to respond to hypothetical questions about what he would do if Dukakis, the likely Democratic presidential nominee, offered him the spot. However, he said, "it is not my desire to have that job offered to me and then to turn it down. I don't think that's good for the process" or for Dukakis. Nunn was among members of Congress who met individually this week with Paul Brown, Dukakis' campaign chairman, to discuss the vice-presidency.

Zia removes key media officials

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani authorities have replaced four key officials in the state-run mass media, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) news agency reported. No reason was given for the sackings, but they came the day after President Mohammad Zia ul Haq vowed to cleanse the media of "vulgarity and obscenity." Those sacked were the secretary to the information and broadcasting ministry, along with the heads of Pakistan television, the National Press Trust and the press information department, APP said. They were all appointed by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, sacked by Zia May 29. Zia vowed to cleanse the media when he decreed that the Islamic legal code of Sharia would become Pakistan's supreme source of law.

Prague police disrupt peace seminar

VIENNA (AP) — At least 11 people were detained in Prague Friday when police prevented peace activists from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and a number of Western countries including the United States from holding a planned independent seminar, emigre sources said. The independent peace seminar, organised by the Czechoslovak human rights group Charter 77, was to open Friday with three workshops, the London-based emigre publisher Palach Press reported. However, a meeting of the organisers was disrupted by police at 3:00 p.m. (1300 GMT) and 11 people were detained including Petr Uhl and Jiri Pavliceck who were the main organisers of the seminar, Palach Press said.

Four killed in Philippine mutiny

MANILA (AP) — The captain and three crew members were killed in a mutiny aboard a merchant marine training ship in central Philippine Seas early this week, the coast guard reported Saturday. Third mate Alex Quilatan, leader of the mutiny, escaped aboard a lifeboat after other crewmen regained control of the MV Filipinas, a 19,000-ton training ship belonging to the government-run National Maritime Polytechnic College, the report said. A mutineer has taken control of the ship, reported late Friday to be in the vicinity of San Bernardino Strait, a coast guard spokesman in Manila said. He said he did not know where the ship was going.

Guns — a way of life in northwest Pakistan

By Eric Hall
Reuters

DARRA, Pakistan — The customer rams home a fresh magazine and sends bullets from the Kalashnikov-style rifle whining over the heads of two small schoolgirls with pretty painted eyes. They do not even flinch.

Walking the dusty main street of Darra, arms capital of Pakistan's northwest frontier, is not for the nervous type.

Outside hundreds of gunshops lining the street, customers crack off test shots, apparently unconcerned about where the bullets may fall.

For more than a hundred years, the gunsmiths of Darra have been making copies of every conceivable weapon, or smuggling in the genuine article to sell.

A century ago, they sold guns to kill soldiers of Britain's imperial army. Most recently, they have been selling guns to kill Soviet troops in neighbouring Afghanistan.

The Soviet army is leaving, but gunshop proprietors say there is still a healthy "export" trade to the rest of Pakistan. And the locals continue to feud among themselves enthusiastically.

The northwest frontier province, inhabited by fierce mountain tribes, was created by the former British administration in India as a buffer region against the Afghans and imperial Russia.

Pakistan maintains loose control over the region but tribal law still rules, and Darra's gunsmiths carry on their trade unhindered.

The gunshop proprietors, mainly Afghani people, are proud of their role in arming their guerrilla cousins over the border to fight Soviet troops.

"We were the first to supply them with guns before all these foreign weapons started coming in," said Akbar of Gul Akbar and Sons, arms dealers.

"It wasn't the Geneva agreement that got the Soviets out," he said, referring to the pact which is sending Moscow's troops home. "It was this," he cried waving a rifle in the air.

A copy of a seven-millimetre, single-shot rifle costs the normal customer the equivalent of about \$130.

"But we give it to the Mujahideen for \$80" said

Akbar.

Around town, copies of Soviet Kalashnikov assault rifles cost about \$240, an anti-aircraft machine-gun about \$1,500.

Darra's gunsmiths, however, admit the real thing is better. Captured Soviet weaponry or other smuggled arms are at least twice the price of copies.

In the backstreets, tiny workshops turn out each component.

A 75-year-old man who says he has been making guns for 60 years sits chipping a wooden block into a rifle stock.

Next door, another man casts breech mechanisms. His neighbours polish them and get them working.

"Try this one," says another old man with a soft smile and professorial glasses. The cartridge slips in nicely but the bolt is difficult to push home — Not a gun you would trust in an emergency.

A young boy sitting amid piles of metal shavings which irritate the skin turns a gun barrel, carving out the spiral inside which gives a rifle bullet speed and accuracy.

In another street, cartridge makers hammer out new ammunition.

In one shop, a tall Afghani with a Muslim skull cap taps lead into the tops of cartridges. These are dum-dum bullets, soft-nosed shells banned under international laws of war because they flatten on impact and tear gaping holes in bone and muscle.

"Who are those for?"

"I hear the weather is... cold in England," he replies.

Back at the Akbar's shop it transpires over a few cups of green tea that most of the copy Kalashnikovs are not truly automatic. "We prefer single-shot guns anyway," says an Afghani tribesman sitting in the shop.

Akbar demonstrates a small gun in the form of a fountain pen. Costing \$12 it is popular with tourists but has also ended the lives of several unsuspecting Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan, he says.

The fragile looking instrument makes a huge roar as he fires it into the air. Shaking hands to take leave of Akbar, it is apparent he has few whole fingers left on either hand.

S. Korea tightens Olympic security

SEOUL (AP) — The masked men slid headfirst down the side of the building on ropes before storming with blazing guns into a room where terrorists were holding Olympic athletes. Loud explosion shook the building as the masked commandos set off stun grenades and gunned down terrorists with machine guns and pistols. In seconds the four-storey building had been seized and the terrorists "eliminated."

"These men will protect the Olympics. We will deal with any threat," said a smiling official watching a training exercise at the base of a police commando unit.

Concern over the safety of the Olympics has been increased by a new wave of violent protests by radical students and lack of progress on reaching an agreement with communist North Korea on ensuring the safety of the games.

The radical students have singled out the Olympics as a target, demanding North Korea co-host the games to speed unification of the divided Korean peninsula. Students burned Olympic flags and banners and shouted "joint Olympics" during street battles with police.

President Roh Tae-Woo ordered massive new security to protect the Olympics. "It is imperative that all possible measures be taken to forestall acts of

violence by domestic radical groups to guarantee the safety of the Olympics," he said.

"Our security forces are prepared for any eventuality," Park Seh-Jik, president of the Seoul Olympic Organising Committee, told the AP in a recent interview.

The world's best athletes will compete behind a massive security screen. Commandos will be perched in stadiums, armoured vehicles will guard the marathon, and a triple ring of warships will guard yachting races in the southern port of Pusan.

Elite commandos of the national police's 868 unit, who will play a key role in preventing terrorist attacks, have staged impressive displays of skills ranging from storming buildings to marksmanship and martial arts.

The commandos, who wear black uniforms, and black face masks to conceal their identities, break bricks and tiles with hands and feet. One commando cheerfully smashed beer bottles over his own head in an unarmed combat display.

South Korea and the International Olympic Committee are continuing efforts to get North Korea to take part in the games, but there has been no progress and officials concede privately that there is little hope.